FOREST LAWN

CEMETERY

AND

THE WAR OF

1812

By Patrick B. Kavanagh
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SECTION 12, Lot 1

RED JACKET LOT

The following are a few historical notes about this Lot and how it came to be and those buried here involved in the War of 1812. The following information is credited to the sources of the Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society Volume III, Transactions of the Buffalo Historical Society Obsequies of Red Jacket, Appendixes 1-15, 1885, Buffalo Express 12/27/1891; Archives Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York.

On October 9, 1884, Red Jacket and several other Seneca Chiefs were buried at this location. All the burials described below with the exception of Red Jacket, Ely Parker, John Jacket and Deerfoot and John Jacket were removed from the old Seneca Burial ground in South Buffalo. Red Jacket, who died in 1830, had been first buried at this location. However, in 1852 his remains were removed to a secret location, known only to relatives, on the Cattaraugus Reservation. Charles Clarke, who started Forest Lawn Cemetery, in 1849 by purchasing 80 acres of this property from the Granger Family, had tried to get Red Jacket's remains removed here at that time. However, negotiations between him and Red Jacket's family never fulfilled his wishes. In front of the marked graves of Young King, Red Jacket, and Capt. Pollard, there are three unmarked graves which have the remains of three unknown Native Americans in each one. These burials were conducted on September 30, 1884 and they also had been removed from the Seneca Mission Cemetery. According to *Transactions of the Buffalo Historical Society, Red Jacket, Volume III, Appendix 15,* it was written that Two Guns, Twenty Canoes, John Snow, White Chief, and several other chieftains may have been numbered among the nine undistinguished dead buried here.

On September 22, 1876, Mr. William Bryant and Mr. James N. Johnston met with the Seneca Chiefs in council at the Cattaraugus Reservation concerning the removal of these Chiefs from the old Mission cemetery on Buffum St. to Forest Lawn Cemetery. John Jacket, Grandson of Red Jacket, was the council leader of this meeting. After the council the Seneca chiefs 'passed a vote giving their unreserved approval to Mr. Bryant's mission.

In 1878, Mrs. Asher Wright, the wife of the missionary who was at the Seneca Mission for years, and Mrs. Ruth Stevenson, the stepdaughter of Red Jacket, arrived in Buffalo to meet with Mr. Bryant. They along with Henry Howland and Mr. O.H. Marshall proceeded to the old Mission burying ground. There, with the aid of the two women, they proceeded to verify the location and identification of the chiefs to be removed. It was a few weeks after this that Mrs. Wright informed Mr. Bryant, Appendix 10, that *"She consulted with Rev Asher Wright and his wife on the subject, and concluded at length to deliver them over to the Buffalo Historical Society, which, with the approval of the Seneca Council had undertaken to provide a permanent resting place for the bones of the old chief and his companions."* From the *Buffalo Historical Society Publication Volume III, Transactions of the Buffalo Historical Society, "Red Jacket" page 7, it* states that *"On the second day of October, 1879, Messrs. O. H. Marshall and William C. Bryant, officers of the Society, visited the reservation and obtained from the aged custodian the remains of Red Jacket, which thereafter and until their final sepulture in Forest Lawn, October 9, 1884 were deposited, enclosed in a plain pine box, in the vault of the Western Savings Bank."*
Henry Placide, an eminent comedian, and actor, of the times, while visiting the burial ground, in 1839, and who had learned of the neglected state of Red Jacket's grave, had erected a marble slab, in honor of the great orator, with a brief and suitable inscription to be placed at the head of Red Jacket's grave. Mr. Placide felt that the resting place of so great an orator should be suitably marked. Relic hunters and other vandals mutilated and chipped it away in a destructive manner. After the formation of the Buffalo Historical Society, in 1862, and after the removal of Red Jacket's remains, the mutilated stone was placed in the Society's museum.

The question was asked throughout if these were the actual bones of Red Jacket. Testimony by those who first removed the bones of Red Jacket in 1852 was by individuals of high integrity. These included undertaker H.D. Farwell who assisted in the removal; Wheeler Hotchkiss a businessman, living adjacent to the Mission Cemetery, who did not want the bones of Red Jacket to fall in the wrong hands and George Copway, an Ojibwa lecturer who while in the course of lectures in Buffalo called attention to Red Jacket's neglected grave and agitated the subject of removal of his dust to a more secure place and the erection of a suitable monument. It is mentioned in Transactions of the Buffalo Historical Society Volume III, Appendix 6, dated October 8, 1884, and *"On the skull of Red Jacket was found some of the plaster of Paris used by a phrenologist fifty years ago in an unsuccessful attempt to take a cast of the cranium."* In

Appendix 10, same publication it is written by William C. Bryant in a letter to General Ely Parker concerning the remains of Red Jacket and that they were Red Jacket's. Bryant writes as one prominent indication that "when the remains were surrendered to the Indians the skull as it has now clinging to it in places a thin crust of plaster of Paris, showing that an attempt had been made to take a cast of it, which probably was arrested by the irruption of Two Guns and his band." This was verified by undertaker Farwell who was present during the 1852 removal and the 1884 reburial. Written in Transactions of the Buffalo Historical Society, Red Jacket, Volume III, Appendix 10 continues with *"General Parker, in acknowledgement of the last communication, said that he had never entertained a doubt as to the identity of the remains, but was curious to know how the Indians had been induced to surrender them to the possession of the whites."* A new coffin, made of red cedar, was provided for the bones and it was secured in the basement of Wheeler Hotchkiss's home near the old Reservation Cemetery. It may have been at this time that a lock of gray hair and tiny fragment of leggings were taken from Red Jacket's remains. In Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume XXV, 1921, Edited By Frank Severance, The Book of the Museum, Red Jacket Relics, it states, I assume meaning in their possession with other relics from him: "Here are a lock of grey hair and tiny fragment of leggings taken from Red Jacket's coffin when his grave was opened in 1852." After protest by some of the Indians still living in the area, the bones of Red Jacket were turned over to Moses Stevenson, Two Guns and Thomas Jemison and taken to the Cattaraugus Reservation where they were given to Ruth Stevenson the favorite step daughter of Red Jacket. Here they were secretly hidden for many years. When she became advanced in age she conferred with Rev. Asher and the Seneca Council about the remains. It was decided to turn them over to the Buffalo Historical Society who had undertaken to provide a permanent resting place for the bones of the old chief and his compatriots.

On the day of the burials the procession to the cemetery began at the Buffalo Historical Society, which was located on the second floor of the Western Savings Bank, where the caskets had been prepared. According to the Buffalo Historical Society's transactions, each casket was of polished oak with handsome silver trimmings, corners, handles and plates. (The newspapers of the day reported the caskets were of polished cherry) On the latter were inscribed the name of each. The procession included six hearses and seventy five carriages as it traveled down Main Street to Virginia Street to Delaware avenue to the cemetery.

The 14 ½ foot high granite pedestal was done by McDonnell and Sons of Quincy Massachusetts who had an office and work yard at 858 Main Street in Buffalo since 1884. It was not in place when Red Jacket was buried in 1884 but erected some time later. However, it does appear that the hexagonal shape foundation, with its six points symbolizing the Six Nations, was in place at the time of the burial because of the reference to it in the newspapers. The 11 1/2 foot bronze statue of Red Jacket was not in place till December 27, 1891. It was done by a James Hamilton of Cleveland, Ohio. The official unveiling of the statue was conducted at a ceremony held on June 22, 1892. This lot was appointed for these burials on August 14, 1884. Originally it was preferred by many that the location of these burials would be more fitting near the old Granger house where many counsels were held. However, the lot now in existence was reported by Mr. Bryant on August 14, 1884. It states in *Publications Buffalo Historical Society, Volume III, Transactions of the Buffalo Historical Society, Red Jacket, Appendix 2 "that the trustees of Forest Lawn had agreed to give to the Society a much finer and more commanding lot than the one donated last spring."*

Before Hamilton's services were commissioned by the Buffalo Historical Society, there was another design being considered as a memorial to Red Jacket. In 1884 a Mrs. Harriet Maxwell Converse and Ely Parker had worked on a fundraiser for the Buffalo Historical Society to erect a fitting memorial. They had commissioned a renowned sculptor by the name of Mr. Eugene Kelly to create a fitting memorial for Red Jacket. However, this design which was that of a dead tree with animals around it was considered *"horrid"* by the Society and rejected. A Mrs. Huyler of New York City contributed $10,000.00 for a statue and new plans were adopted. Mr. Hamilton was given the contract which had been satisfactorily carried out.

Red Jacket

Seneca Chief and orator; became a loyal, and dedicated friend of Erastus Granger and an ally to the American Army during the War of 1812. He was reportedly present on the night of July 10, 1813, with other chiefs, the night before the British attack on Black Rock. Later, Red Jacket was on the American left flank at the battle of Chippawa on July 5, 1814. At times there were statements made questioning the bravery and courage of Red Jacket during these campaigns. Many felt that this was an injustice to Red Jacket. Major Donald Frazier, of the 13th Infantry, and an aide to General Porter, would write the

following on August 7, 1821 to a Mr. Salisbury expressing his own views. This letter can be found *in Publications Buffalo Historical Society, Volume I, pg 362, 1879, Addenda to Orland Allen by William C. Bryant: "Red Jacket is charged with being cowardly, treacherous, dishonorable, and intemperate. It ill becomes us to charge him with cowardice. At Fort George, Chippawa, etc., he led his men bravely into action and if ever there had been doubt respecting his courage, his conduct in these bloody scenes should have acquitted him thenceforward, but the fact is otherwise. His conduct in the late War, in support of the cause of our country, shows he was not treacherous to us; and the course which he has invariably pursued, in relation to the various propositions, which have been made for the purchase of the Indian lands, shows, at the same time his honesty to his own nation, and acquits him fully of the charge of dishonor. Red Jacket is truly a great man and commands respect for his astonishing powers of oratory and his gallantry in the field."*

So strong was the friendship between him and Erastus Granger, (Indian Agent; see section J) that the following was written in the Buffalo Courier Express August 20, 1944 "At one of the councils, an aged squaw uttered a prophecy which came true. She said that some day Judge Granger and his friend, Red Jacket, would come to rest in the same burial ground, now Forest Lawn." Erastus Granger died in 1826 and was buried in the family plot here at Forest Lawn, section J. Red Jacket died in 1830, was first buried at the old Reservation cemetery in South Buffalo and in 1852 was removed to a secret location. In 1884 his remains were interred here fulfilling the prophecy.

According to Index of Awards on Claims of the Soldiers of the War of 1812, New York Adjutant's Office, 1860 Indian Tribes mustered into service of the United States, Seneca Nation Claim #13,960, Red Jacket was awarded $120.00, paid to an unnamed guardian. "These claims were for clothing and equipment which were depreciated, worn or lost and destroyed in said service for which he had not received payment." These payments were only for those who were drafted into the militia or volunteered for service from New York during the War.

The following chiefs were also buried with Red Jacket on that day. However, unlike Red Jackets remains which were kept in the Bank vault, Undertaker Farwell kept the remains of these chiefs at his undertaking rooms on Pearl St.

Capt. Pollard

General Peter B. Porter, from his papers, Buffalo Historical Society, referred to him, at the Battle of Chippawa, July 5, 1814, as *"a Seneca chief, whom I considered as probably better entitled than any other in the command."* He was a man of commanding presence; he was formally selected by the Indians as their leader, or war captain. During 1814, he was considered the principal War Chief of the Seneca's involved with General Brown. He was stationed on the American left flank, in the woods, against the Mohawk allies of General Riall's army. After the battle of Chippawa the Native Americans from the British and American sides, held a council and decided to leave their respective armies and return to their homes. Only a few remained with General Brown and his army and a number left the British army as well. However, one of the goals of the Niagara Campaign of 1814, which was to rid the British army of their Indian allies, appeared to be successful by reducing the number and assistance of the Mohawks in the British ranks.

In *Transactions of the Publications Buffalo Historical Society, Volume III, Red Jacket, 1885, Appendix 15,* the following was written about Capt. Pollard: *"Pollard was a half breed, his father being an English sutler or Indian trader, whose headquarters appear to have been at Fort Niagara, and his mother s Seneca woman. The celebrated Catharine Montour Queen Catharine) became his step mother and bore to his father three sons, all of whom were renowned in the border warfare of those troubled times. Pollard was formally selected by the Indians as their leader, or war captain, at the commencement of the War of 1812, and was an able and valiant ally of our forces during the entire struggle. He was a man of commanding presence, of dignified and benevolent aspect, showing but little traces of his Indian lineage. Captain Pollard died on April 10, 1841, of advanced age and was buried at the old Mission Cemetery. He left no descendants. His wife Catharine, who survived him several years, was buried by his side, together with the last of his family a little granddaughter."*

In *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume XXIV, History of Buffalo Creek Reservation by Frederick Houghton, Edited by Frank Severance, 1920, a footnote, pg 148,* includes this sketch of Capt. Pollard: *"Captain Pollard (Waoundawanna), seemingly the son of Edward Pollard, an English trader, was a chief and warrior, in command of war parties sent from Niagara against the borders during the Revolution, and the American company of Seneca's who operated along the Niagara in the War*

of 1812. He was prominent in the Treaty of 1838. At all times he seemed to have been a kindly, courteous gentleman, respected by his white and Seneca neighbors."
In *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume I, 1879, pg 86, "The Brave's Rest" by William C. Bryant the following was written about Captain Pollard: "Pollard was a tall, benevolent looking old man, with features and complexion approaching the type of Southern Europe. He was a man literally without gile. Who that ever heard him pray and exhort in that little chapel, and witnessed his gentle, blameless life, could believe that he was a fierce warrior in Revolutionary days, and one of the leaders in the massacre of Wyoming!"*

According to *Index of Awards on Claims of the Soldiers of the War of 1812 New York Adjutant's Office, 1860, Indian Tribes mustered into Service of the United States, Seneca Nation, Claim # 17,229, Capt. Pollard was awarded $112.00,* paid to an unnamed Executor. *"These claims were for clothing and equipment which was depreciated, worn or lost and destroyed in said service for which he had not received payment."* These payments were only for those who were drafted into the militia or volunteered for the State of New York during the War.

Little Billy

At first did not want to enter war. However, after the Grand Island incident, when some Mohawks occupied the Seneca Island, he agreed to defend his own against a common enemy. After the Black Rock affair, Little Billy was appointed a lieutenant at thirty dollars a month. He would be active in the woods of Fort George during the remainder of the summer of 1813. *Publications Buffalo Historical Society, Volume III, Transactions of the Buffalo Historical Society, Red Jacket, Appendix 15* mentions of him *"He was a man of marked integrity and of irreproachable habits. His name appears on many treaties. There is a tradition extant which asserts that he was one of the Indian guides who accompanied the youthful Washington on his memorable mission to Fort Duquesne during the old French and Indian War. He died on December 28, 1834 at the Seneca Village, Buffalo Creek and was buried in the old Mission Cemetery."* According to *Index of Awards on Claims of the Soldiers of the War of 1812, New York Adjutant General's Office, 1860, Indian Tribes mustered into Service of the United States, Seneca Nation, Little Billy, claim# 9,949, was awarded $120.00, paid to an unnamed Executor of his estate. "These claims were for clothing and equipment which were depreciated worn out, lost and destroyed in said service for which he had not received payment."* These payments were only for those drafted into the militia or volunteered for the State of New York during the War.

Young King

He responded with Red Jacket, Farmers Brother and about forty warriors the night of July 10, 1813 to Grangers. The next day they engaged the British as they attacked Black Rock. The British were driven back across the River. Young King was wounded during this action.. By some accounts, as far as the Native American involvement, which began with this incident , many feel Young Kill was the principal War Chief leader of the Seneca's for the year 1813.

In *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume I, pgs 86-87, 1879, "The Brave's Rest" by William C. Bryant,* Young King is described as: *"Young King was a very Goliath in bulk and stature; his face seamed with scars, the rim of his ears slit with a knife and pendent to his shoulders, one arm gone and the other crippled, and yet as noble looking as a dethroned and battered Colossus." In Transactions of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume III, Red Jacket 1885, Appendix 15, pgs 81-82, the following was written: "Young King was a man of lofty stature and Herculean mold, and of great force of character, though not endowed with the rare intellectual qualities which rendered his uncle the most influential Seneca Chieftain of his period." According to this same reference, pg 82, Young King's participation at the Massacre at Wyoming is mentioned as "It is natural to infer that Young King was the senior of Red Jacket, and old enough to have followed his patron, Col. Butler, to the bloody field of Wyoming. Captain Pollard, a noted Seneca Chief, affirmed that Young King led the Indians on that occasion."* A footnote on this page refers to another source regarding this as the *American Historical Record, Volume I, pg 116.* His uncle was *"Old Smoke or the Old King."*

On July 18, 1815, Young King was involved in an incident with the blacksmith David Reese. *William Ketchum's History of Buffalo, Volume II, pg 185, 1864* includes this story about the incident: *"that one day David Reese had gotten into a dispute with an Indian concerning a small job, and he struck him with his hand felling the Indian. At this moment Young King rode up on horseback and sharply denounced what Reese had done. Reese then threatened Young King in the same way, at which time Young King who*

had dismounted, struck Reese on the head with a stick or club. Reese seized a scythe from a bystander and struck Young King a severe blow across his arm, nearly severing it from his body. The arm was amputated the following day". Reese was prosecuted for his actions. However, some type of arbitration was settled upon between the parties to settle the matter. Pertaining to this incident, the following is written in the *Sketch of The Life of Samuel Pratt, By William Pryor Letchworth, Buffalo, New York, 1874, Appendix, pg 199,* involving Dr. Josiah Trowbridge, buried in Section 1: *"Josiah Trowbridge was called to dress the wound. Found the arm near the shoulder, obliquely cut two-thirds through, the bone fractured completely; thought it absolutely necessary, in order to save his life, to amputate the arm, which he did the same night."* Young King died in 1835 and was buried in the old Mission Cemetery.

Another account of this incident is printed in *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume XXVI, 1922, Recalling Pioneer Days, The William Hodge Papers, pg 306,* where it is written by William Hodge Jr. *"Among anecdotes concerning Young King, there is one which I have never seen published, excepting soon after the occurrence to which it relates. Many years after the War of 1812, there was a petition of Young King before Congress for a pension, for services rendered during the war. It was gotten up by one of our sharp lawyers in Buffalo, and was presented with a speech of much eloquence by one of our Representatives. It stated that Young King had been of much service to the country during the war; had fought in several battles, and had lost an arm. The pension was granted without a reference or the asking of any questions. The name of David Reese, the blacksmith for the Seneca Indians, was not mentioned in the speech before Congress, although the arm of Young King was really lost in an encounter with him, as is well known."*

Included in the *Index of Awards on Claims of the Soldiers of the War of 1812, New York Adjutant General's Office, 1860 Indian Tribes Mustered into Service of the United States, Seneca Nation, the Executor of Young King's claim, # 9,931, was awarded $120.00. "These Claims were for clothing and equipment which were depreciated, worn out, lost and destroyed in said service for which he had not received payment."* These awards were only for drafted militia or volunteers of the State of New York. To just what extent Tall Peter and Destroy town played during the war, if any at all, is not known. However, a little about them is as follows: Transactions of the *Buffalo Historical Society, Volume III, 1885, Red Jacket, at Buffalo October, 9th, 1884 Appendix 15* noted the following about each.

Tall Peter

Appendix 15 describes him as: *"He was described as being of gigantic stature, fully seven feet high, broad shouldered; a man of power and dignity. It was reported he was of the age of seventy when he died and he was buried in the Mission Cemetery. He was one of the Nations leading chiefs."*

Destroytown

Appendix 15 mentions *"He was described as a leading councilor in his nation, a brave warrior, a man noted for the soundness of his judgment, his love of truth. Destroy town bore the same name that the Iroquois bestowed on General Washington, who in consequence of his generosity toward this conquered and despairing people, at the close of the Revolutionary War was enshrined in their affections and reverenced not less than William Penn, the just pale face."*
Although Destroy town's service record is unknown, it is known according to the *Index of Awards on Claims of the Soldiers of the War of 1812, New York Adjutant's Office, 1860, Indian Tribes mustered into the Service of the United States, Seneca Nation, Claim # 9,964, Destroytown was awarded, submitted by an unnamed Executor, $120.00. "These claims were for clothing and equipment which was depreciated worn out, lost and destroyed in said service for which he had not received payment."*

On November 10, 1894 five boxes of Indian remains, identities unknown, were further removed from the old Seneca Burying ground, and interred in the Red Jacket Plot, Section 12. These graves are located to the left of the Red Jacket monument. There are four graves allocated for these boxes. One headstone, with the following inscription marks these graves *"Here rests Red Jacket's compatriots, first buried in the old mission cemetery South Buffalo, thence removed to this spot October 1894."*

Ely Parker son of William Parker

Although the father of Ely Parker is not buried here I thought it of interest to mention that he participated in the War of 1812 as an ally to the Americans. According to the Index of Awards on Claims of the Soldiers of the War of 1812, New York Adjutant's Office, 1860, Indian Tribes mustered into the Service of the United States, Tonawanda Reservation, and Claim # 10,070, in which he received $120.00.

"These claims were for clothing and equipment which was depreciated worn out, lost, and destroyed in said service for which he had not received payment." William Parker died in 1864. He was a Seneca and at the time of his death was living on the Tonawanda Reservation. He apparently was living at the time of this entitlement.

John Jacket

On February 6, 1901 grandson of Red Jacket, died and was buried in this lot. His unmarked grave is located in front of the grave of Little Billy. John Jacket was ninety eight years of age at the time of his death which occurred at Gowanda, New York. This would have made him approximately ten years of age when the Seneca's entered the war on July 11, 1813 at Black Rock. More than likely he was too young to take part at that time. As mentioned he was the chief that held council in 1876, at Cattaraugus, which authorized the removal of Indian remains from the old Seneca Burial ground on Buffum St to Forest Lawn Cemetery.

SECTION 3

Elijah Efner, Lot 14.

The following information is from *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society Volume IV, 1896 "The Adventures and Enterprises of Elijah D. Efner, pgs 35-54, dated January 21, 1865"* and also the *Courier Express March 3, 1942.* Elijah Efner was taken prisoner at Detroit when General Hull surrendered to General Brock in August, 1812. In order to be paroled from captivity Efner had to sign off that he would not engage in hostilities against the British again, a condition for his release which he did sign to gain his freedom. He mentions how he, and Walter Norton, Section H, walked from Cleveland, Ohio to Buffalo after they were released. He was present at the mob scene at Pomeroy's mentioned above, Grosvenor account, in which he assisted in rescuing patrons, in particular a Doctor Blood of the US 4th Regiment, who laid wounded, from the second floor of the establishment after it caught fire. In the Courier article it reads *"Elijah Efner was one of a little band of citizens who rescued the esteemed doctor just in time."* Early in the war, at Black Rock, he tailored uniforms for Gen Swift's Regt. His shop was located on Niagara Street near the Ferry House. According to *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society Volume XVI, Earlier Buffalo Picture Book, Early Black Rock Facts, pg 255, Edited by Frank Severance, 1912,* it tells of a log house once occupied by Orange Dean at the Rock. *"During the war it was occupied by E.D. Efner and from it he furnished clothing for Swift's regiment."* In an article written in the *Courier Express, March 22, 1942,* about Elijah Efner, it states that *"with John Sackrider, the two opened a temporary shop in Niagara Street near the Ferry House. There was local gun battery in front of them and a mortar battery in their rear; they had to accustom themselves to working to the accompaniment of gunfire of a force to set their little building quivering."* Later, in 1813, he and James Sweeney established a partnership and their shop was located on Main St at the Terrace.

With other villagers he defended Buffalo, his home, when the British invaded, on December 30, 1813 and had to escape or capture would have meant harsh punishment for violation of the parole conditions he had signed in 1812. According to *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume IV, 1896, Then Adventures and Enterprises of Elijah Efner, pg 49,* He mentions how he was with the group of men, including James Sweeney and Seth Grosvenor, who manned the cannon at Main and Niagara Sts, while the British were located at the old Franklin Square Burial ground. He states that this is when Cyrenius Chapin was to show a flag of truce and also told Efner he better leave or face capture.
He would also mention reference above, *pg 50,* that he was present at the incident in late July, 1814 when a Canadian Indian was slain by **Farmer's Brother** for being a spy. See **Farmers Brother Section N Franklin** Square. Elijah Efner would write of the incident *"I witnessed the execution of a Canadian Indian by Seneca Indians they having condemned him as a spy, upon very trifling evidence. All our efforts to save the poor fellow were in vain, and after having shot him through the heart with a rifle ball, they lashed the body to a pole and bore it away on their shoulders for burial."*

Efner would also relate, reference above, *pg 52,* later in his manuscript after the failed British attempt to capture Fort Erie on August 14, 15, 1814 how the British wounded were transported to Buffalo and how *"Mr. Sweeney and myself assisted in bringing the wounded from the landing to the hospital, and the faces of the poor fellows were so fearfully disfigured, that the sight of them was sickening."*

According to the *Courier Express, March 22, 1942,* Elijah would relate *"how early in his travels of stopping to make clothes for the residents of Caldwell Manor, a house that stood on Canadian soil with its barn in Vermont. At the time there was an embargo on trade with Canada and the house was ideally situated for smuggling. If contraband was sought by Canadian officials, it could be rushed to the barn, in U.S. territory; and when U.S. officers came to search the place, smuggled goods could be secreted in the house, safe outside their jurisdiction."*

He would become a most trusted and successful businessman in Buffalo. He would become the president of Buffalo Savings Bank and had built a most impressive mansion known as "Elmstone" which was located on Seventh Street and the grounds extending to Connecticut St.

Note: When Elijah Efner occupied the residence near the "Rock" as mentioned above, the major battery near him was known as Fort Tompkins and also as Fort Adams. This was the largest and most important battery on the American shore on this side of the river during the War. Located on the west side of Niagara Street on the site of the old International Railway Company, there is a Historical marker attached to a building recognizing the fort and its location. This building's address is 1010 Niagara Street. It was erected in 1903 by the Railway Company. The name Tompkins for the Fort was in honor of the Governor of New York during the war years, Governor Daniel D. Tompkins.

SECTION 2

St. John Lot; Gamaliel, Margaret and Elijah, Lot 45.

On June 6, 1813 Gamaliel St. John, husband of Margaret and their son, Elijah, would attempt to ferry soldiers and supplies over to Fort Erie, which was in possession of the US Army. However, Gamaliel, an experienced ferryman would strike the anchor line of the John Adams, anchored in the river, and the scow would capsize putting all on board in jeopardy of drowning. Three soldiers and two civilians, Gamaliel and Elijah would not survive. The following account is from *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume I, 1879, the Old Black Rock Ferry by Charles D. Norton, pgs 104-105, "On the sixth of June 1813, the morning being clear and cold, with the ice running in the river, Mr. Brace with Mr. St John, to whom the management of the boat was entrusted as the more skillful navigator, started from the Rock to cross the River. The boat was a scow, of about ten tons burthen, propelled by sweeps handled by two or four men and steered with another long sweep at the stern. The route was to cross the stream directly, as nearly as it could be done, and to drop down to the wharf which was at the present ferry landing. Sometimes this was difficult to accomplish, particularly when ice was running in the river; and the ferry men were carried down to a point near or opposite to Squaw Island, and then they were obliged to cross and pole up the river to the Black Rock, a laborious and very wearisome task. Two or three of Commodore Perry's vessels which had been fitted out by Henry Eckford at the mouth of the creek, had made an attempt to get up the Niagara into the lake to join the squadron, but had been obliged to cast anchor in the very path of the ferry boat. The ferryman had been advised that it would be a venturesome business to attempt to go above the vessels in order to reach the Canada landing; but Mr. St John, relying on his skill as a boatman, and his knowledge of the river, said that he could accomplish it without collision. He had not overrated his knowledge or his skill, but an unforeseen danger presented itself which was discovered too late to be avoided. The ferry boat would have cleared the foremost vessel, but it was driven upon the cable which held her at anchor, and the play of the cable as it rose and fell with the motion of the vessel upset the ferry boat and turned the whole party into the river. The boats of the ships nearest them had gone to Buffalo creek, and the party, which consisted of Mr. Brace, Mr. St John and his son, four soldiers and four other passengers, were in imminent danger of drowning. Mr. St John went down, but rose again and spoke encouraging words to Mr. Brace, putting his hand on his shoulder at the same time; but suddenly sank and did not rise again. His son a fine athletic young man, had nearly reached shallow water when he disappeared; and Mr. Brace grasped a board which floated near him, by means of which his life was saved."*

Mr. George Lester, a survivor of this tragedy and with Gamaliel in the water after the capsizing, visited the St John family and the following was written by Parnell St John Sidway in *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume IX, 1906, pg 329, Papers Related to the Burning of Buffalo Recollections of the Burning of Buffalo, by Mrs. Jonathan Sidway* recalled by her *"In two or three days, or*

as soon as Mr. George Lester could find himself sufficiently recovered to call on our family, he came into town from Cold Springs and gave us the details of what had occurred. While in the water, my father and Mr. George Lester were assisted by the buoyancy of a rail which they had joint possession of and which the hoped would be the means of keeping themselves above water until help could reach them; but they soon realized that it was not sufficient for the two, and that one or the other must relinquish it. They discussed the chances of being saved, and, on Mr. George Lester saying that he could not swim, father let go of the rail and caught a piece of board which proved of no assistance, and he was lost." From this same reference, *pg 328*, concerning Elijah's fate, the following was written: *"The citizens, as soon as possible, started out in rowboats to their rescue, but passed by Elijah, who was so close to the shore that they thought he would be able to save himself. Why he did not reach the shore was a matter of much speculation in opinion afterwards, as he was known to be a good swimmer. When picked up, there was a mark on his forehead indicative of some injury, probably received when the scow capsized, causing him to become faint, or otherwise exhausted, if not unconscious."* Elijah's body would be recovered nine days after the accident and brought back to Buffalo by Asaph Bemis, Elijah's brother in law, who had married his sister Aurelia St John on October 3, 1812; Gamaliel's body would be recovered fifteen days after the accident and also would be returned to Buffalo by his son in law Asaph Bemis.

Prior to this tragic incident, Elijah was actually taken prisoner at the start of the war. According to *Publication of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume IX, Papers Related to the Burning of Buffalo, 1906, Edited By Frank Severance, Recollections of the Burning of Buffalo, pg 319, By Parnell St John, Mrs. Jonathan Sidway, "In the Spring of 1812, with another stock of goods bought of Abel M. Grosvenor, started by a schooner and bound for Detroit. While the vessel was heading toward Malden on her way to the mouth of the Detroit River, and near the entrance, she was captured, with all on board, by the Queen Charlotte, which had been hastily fitted out by Canadians for war purposes. The men who were taken were kept in prison for three months, and then set at liberty on the Niagara Frontier. Nothing was heard of my brother from the time he started from Buffalo, except that the vessel was taken at Malden, until he entered the door of the homestead on his return. Everything was taken from him except the summer suit which he wore, not even a pocketknife was left him."*

According to the same reference mentioned above, *pg 325,* there is an account of how Gamaliel St John assisted the American Army, on the Canadian side of the river, when Fort George was attacked, May 27, 1813, and the occupation of Fort Erie on the same date. *"On the morning of the crossing of the armies, May 27, 1813, my father took an early breakfast and left home for the scene of action at Black Rock saying to the family that he would go down and see how Col. Preston had succeeded in crossing, so that he would be back in due season, evidently intending to quiet my mother's anxieties about his health being such as to warrant his crossing the river. As he did not return as we expected a messenger was sent to inquire and learn of his whereabouts, who on returning, informed the family that his horse was in the stable at Black Rock, and that himself was seen on one of the last boats going over the River. He went directly up to Fort Erie which had by that time been possessed by the forces under Col. Preston, who was looking anxiously for someone acquainted with the country to be a bearer of dispatches to Col Chrystie at Fort George. My father volunteered to go. As a prudential measure, he was dressed in a British sergeant's uniform, and carried as a provision against emergencies a flag of truce. He rode the distance as soon as a proper prudence would admit, and reached Fort George late in the afternoon at about the same time our troops took possession of it. As my father entered Fort George, Col Chrystie was casting about for someone to be the bearer of dispatches to Col. Preston. After taking a soldiers supper he was mounted on a fresh horse and started back as bearer of dispatches from Col Chrystie to Col Preston in Fort Erie."*
The account would continue with Col Preston wanting Gamaliel to accept compensation for his service to his country. He did accept a certificate setting forth how important his services were and according to the above reference, *pg 326*, it survived till the village was burned on December 30, 1813. The account goes on, *pg 326,* that *"Col Preston insisted that he would do well to take from the spoils some memorials of the events of the day. On looking about among the effects of the British officers there were found many elegant things, particularly in the line of clothing. It was finally decided that he should take an undress suit of exquisite material, which by trial was found to fit him. The suit was afterwards much admired and coveted by many of the young American officers."*

Previous to this incident during the winter of 1812-13 their son Cyrus would perish from camp distemper, possibly the same epidemic which would kill so many soldiers and citizens during that time. According to *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume IX, edited by Frank Severance, 1906, Papers Related to the Burning of Buffalo, Recollections of the Burning of Buffalo By Mrs. Jonathan*

Sidway, pg 322, it is written "On the 9th day of November following my brother, Cyrus Marsh St John, after returning from a hunting trip in company with Elijah, through the inclemency of the weather and the swampy nature of the country, contracted the disease then epidemical, commonly called the camp distemper, and died after six days sickness. The disease was evidently, from its description, inflammation of the larynx and bronchia, in some instances involving the tonsils, and in many respects answering in symptoms to the disease known as diphtheria."

When Buffalo was attacked on December 30, 1813, the widow St John would not leave believing that the army could defend the Village against the attackers. Once this was proven false, her children were sent to safety except two daughters, **Maria, Section I, Lot 1, and Sarah, Section K,** Lot who remained with her and help protect their homes. For the moment, she was able to have her two houses sparred. From the reference mentioned above, *pg 335*, it was written that *"the large house was fired that day, but the flames were extinguished by Sarah, drawing water, mother, Maria, and the hired man carrying and throwing it on the fire."* During this same day Mrs. St John was approached by Mr. Seth Grosvenor pleading for help to remount the gun at Niagara and Mohawk Sts, which he felt, was being very effective against the advancing British. From the same reference above, *pg 335,* Grosvenor was recalled saying: *"If I had help to put that cannon up again I could drive the British back."* However, no help could be had. It is written in *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society Volume IX, 1906, Papers Relating to the Burning of Buffalo, Story of the St. John House, by Martha St John Skinner, pg 341, that "Just then a few men came by on horse back and Mrs. St. John was heard to yell For mercy sake do turn back and help Mr. Grosvenor manage that cannon and defend the town, and let General Hall go he must be an awful coward. At that the rider raised his hat drew rein on his horse and set of on a dignified trot. Mrs. St. John was soon informed that she was speaking to the General himself."*

Also, from this same reference, *pg 343,* on the first day of attack Mrs. St John was successful in her pleas to the British commander to spare her property. It was written that upon her meeting the British commander she was asked by him *"What do you require? Mother replied I came to ask you to send a guard to keep the Indians from burning my house and from plundering our goods and clothing. He spoke a few words to the guide, and they retraced their steps back to their home. The interpreter took his seat by the door. Being winter the door was closed and the Indians would bang their guns against it. When the door was opened, the interpreter would speak and they would go away, looking as if they had met with a severe reproof."*

When the British returned on January 1, 1814 their larger house, was again fired. From the same papers, *pgs 344-345, by Martha St John Skinner* it was written that Mrs. St John pleaded with the British officer saying *"She would have no income if that was destroyed and I am a widow and I have also lost my sons." He replied "Very likely this may be true but we have left you one roof and that is more than the Americans left for our widows when they came over; they only left the brands after they were burned."* He then drew his pistol and pointed it at her and said if she wished to save her life she must leave and return to her house they had left for her". This smaller house was one of only four structures that remained standing after the British retreat. According to *Publication Buffalo Historical Society Volume XXIX, War Losses on the Niagara Frontier, By Louis L. Babcock, 1927, pg 257, the widow St John would be compensated $25.00 for her losses by the money collected by the Committee of Safety and Relief of Canandaigua.*

In 1813, the St John structures were located on the west side of Van Staphorst St (Main Street today) near the southwest corner of Mohawk St. The address today is 460 Main Street and according to Historic Buffalo, Erie Bicentennial Committee, 1974, this was a marked historic site at one time.

Le Grand St John, Lot 45.

As a boy of nearly six years old, he witnessed the burning of Buffalo on December 30, 1813. He was the 11th of 12 St John children and was one of the first of that family to be taken to safety by his sister Aurelia and her husband Asaph Bemis. He was inspired early in life, as an artist, to record the scenes of the burning of Buffalo and other early scenes of Buffalo he had witnessed. Recently seven of eight drawings by Le Grand pertaining to the attack and destruction of Buffalo have been shown by his descendants. The drawings include the court house, the jail, which survived, being stone but it shows the roof off; fleeing citizens on main street; citizens on the Lake Erie shore; the two buildings of his family on Main St.; lots where only chimney's stand; the arrival of regular army troops in the spring of 1814. These drawings and others appeared in the Spring 2005 edition of Western New York Heritage Magazine.

John Ransom St John, Lot 45.

He was one of the St John children who were evacuated with three of his sisters and two brothers the day Buffalo was attacked. This is described in *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society Volume IX, 1906, Papers Related to the Burning of Buffalo Story of the St John House by Martha St John Skinner, pg 339.*

Zenas Barker, Lot 54.

He was a Revolutionary War Veteran; Niagara County Clerk 1813-14; Judge; ferry operator; leading citizen of the Village of Buffalo and tavern keeper. He had tavern in Bay view area on the lake and this area at that time was referred to as *"Barkersville"*. It provided a safe haven for those fleeing the burning of Buffalo. Martha St John Skinner, one of the St John children who fled to Barker's, wrote in the *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume IX, 1906, pg 338, Papers Related to the Burning of Buffalo that "We came to Mr. Barker's tavern, eight miles from Buffalo. Mrs. Barker was very sick and died on the 10th of January."*

General Jacob Brown recovered here from his wounds received at the Battle of Lundy's Lane, July 25, 1814 and wrote his official report of the battle there dated August 7, 1814. One of the orders, from the *Trimble Papers, Ohio Historical Society,* Major General Jacob Brown dictated to Lieut. Austin, his Aide De Camp, while recovering at Barkers was written with the location Barkersville addressed to Major Trimble. It read *"Barkersville August 5, 1814 Major Trimble will cause Maj General Riall and the other British prisoners of War now at Williamsville to be immediately removed to Batavia without any further delay. By order of Major General Brown L Austin ADC Major Trimble Commanding at Buffalo."* General Riall was the commanding officer when the British and Indian allies attacked and burned Lewiston, NY on December 19, 1813. General Riall was the British commander when Black Rock and Buffalo were attacked and burned on December 30, 1813. He also was the commander of the British troops at the Battle of Chippawa, July 5, 1814. He was captured at the battle of Lundy's Lane July 25, 1814. Now he would be escorted eastward where he would eventually end up at Pittsfield, MA, and enjoy a rather pleasant captivity.

Judge Barker also had a structure in Buffalo at the Northwest corner of Crow and Oneida Sts, Exchange and Ellicott Sts today which was destroyed by the British on December 30. 1813.
On the side of the obelisk, it lists the wives of Zenas Barker. He married Margaret Sydnor on May 10, 1814, a war time bride. If this order is correct, it would be Rhoda, his first wife, who Martha St John describes above as dying at Barkers on January 10, 1814. According to Forest Lawn Archives, those buried in this lot were removed from the Delaware and North Street cemetery in July or August of 1871. Zenas Barker had a family of many children. One of his daughters married John Camp, the Quarter Master General for the Army on the Niagara Frontier during the War years.

SECTION 5

Dr. Cyrenius Chapin, Lot 1.

Dr. Chapin was the Niagara County Sheriff in 1813 and was a physician by trade. His village residence, in 1813, was located on the Northwest corner of Van Staphorst and Swan Sts. Today Main and Swan Sts. He was a Colonel of a Volunteer Regiment in the War and active with the capture of the Detroit and Caledonia schooners, which were anchored off of Fort Erie on Oct 9, 1812. Lieut. Jesse Elliott who commanded the attacks on these two schooners, would include Dr. Chapin in his official report dated Black Rock, October 9th, 1812. In *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume VIII, Edited by Frank Severance, 1905, The Episode of the Adams and Caledonia, pgs 405-409, By George D. Emerson,* an extract of that report reads on page 407, *"Capt. Chapin, Mr. John Mc Comb, Messers. John Faver, Thomas Davis, Peter Overstock and James Sloan, resident gentlemen of Buffalo for their soldier and sailor like conduct. In a word sir, every man fought as if with their hearts animated only by the interests and honor of their country."*

As the war went on he would be the subject of allegations of plundering Canadian homes in raids with a group of volunteers. In *Soldiers of 1814 American Enlisted Men's Memoirs of the Niagara Campaign Private Amasiah Ford, By Donald E. Graves, 1995, footnote, pg 52,* mentions that *"Doctor Cyrenius Chapin was a prewar resident of Buffalo, New York who raised a company of volunteers to assist*

the United States Army in the Niagara. Many of their actions in the field were not military, and the unit was known to the regular officers as "Doctor Chapin and his forty thieves."
It was recalled in *" Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume IX, pg 334, 1906, The Papers Relating to the Burning of Buffalo" By Mrs. Parnell St. John Sidway that "In the summer or fall of 1813 some of our people of Buffalo, not properly organized or connected with the army or Government, went over to Canada under the guidance of Col. Chapin, and were engaged in a work and various enterprises with which I am not conversant as to character, but about which there were many severe criticisms and caustic censures."*

During the summer of 1813 Chapin and his volunteers, under the command of General Peter B. Porter, would conduct raids on Canadian soil. Although their conduct was questionable at times, as stated above, the following reference defends Chapin and his actions. According to *The Cradle of the Queen City, By Robert W. Bingham, Published by the Buffalo Historical Society, 1931, Volume XXXI, pgs 312-313, the Buffalo Gazette, unknown date, sometime in September, 1813,* printed *"The conduct of Major Chapin in all his incursions into the enemy's territory, has been strictly honorable; carefully distinguishing between friends and enemies; justly discriminating between public and private property; and if any plundering has been committed on the defenceless(and in some instances, paroled) inhabitants of Canada, the sin of such unworthy transactions will not lie at his door. This is not said to flatter it was due to truth and we hope it will tend to counteract the scandalous stories respecting Major Chapin's corps being an organized set of marauders."*

He was captured at the Battle of Beaver Dams June 24, 1813. the following was written it the *Buffalo Gazette, July 20, 1813,* pertaining to his capture and escape: *"Maj. Chapin and his corps were detained under guard at the head of Lake Ontario and no attention paid to that article of capitulation which provided for their being paroled. On the 12th inst. they were ordered down the Lake to Kingston, for which place they were embarked in two boats, accompanied by a guard of 15 men under the command of a lieutenant. Thirteen of the men, with the lieutenant were stationed in the forward boat with Maj. Chapin and the other officers, while the remaining two, a sergeant and one man, took the direction of the other boat, which contained the soldiers. An agreement had been entered into previous to their departure, of seizing the first opportunity that offered, to regain their liberty, which they determined to effect or die in the attempt. When they were within about 12 miles of York the boat which was filled with the prisoners, was rowed by them alongside the other, under pretence of taking something to drink. The signal being given, they sprang upon the guard, who little expected such a maneuver and in a short time disarmed them and gained possession of the boat. They immediately altered their course from Kingston to Fort Niagara and after rowing hard for most of the night , and escaping with difficulty from one of the enemy's schooners, which gave them chase, arrived in safety, with their prisoners, at the American garrison. When the Major and his company arrived in this village, they were welcomed with several demonstrations of the public feeling."*

He adamantly opposed the burning of the village of Newark, Niagara on the Lake today, on December 10, 1813 arguing publicly with General McClure and as a result was not a favorite of US Army Officers; imprisoned by Gen McClure for treason but was released by Village fathers. According *The Documentary History of the Campaigns Upon the Niagara Frontier In 1812-14, Volume IX, By Lieut. Col. E. Cruikshank, Welland, 1908, pg 26,* in a letter to Governor Tompkins from General McClure, Headquarters, Buffalo, New York 20th December 1813, McClure writes the following indicating the previous: *"I this day ordered Colonel Chapin into confinement for treason and mutiny. There is not a greater rascal exists than Chapin, and he is supported by a pack of Tories and enemies to our Government. Such is the men of Buffalo. They don't deserve protection. Time will not permit of my giving you the particulars."* A note regarding this action by McClure is that in 1814 the inhabitants of Buffalo were not looked upon with great admiration at least by one regular army soldier. Jacob Porter Norton was assigned to Buffalo and he made a note, found in *Niagara Frontier, Volume XII, Number 2, Summer 1965, pgs 51-57, entitled Jacob Porter Norton, A Yankee on the Niagara Frontier in 1814, Edited with an Introduction by Daniel R. Porter, which he describes, on pg 51, Buffalo, "is a nest of villains, rogues, rascals, pickpockets, knaves and extortioners."* So, it was not just Chapin they did not care for.

It was said by many Army officers that they would not defend Buffalo if Chapin was not turned over to them in irons. An example of this can be found in the following excerpt from a sworn statement by citizen Asa Ransom, concerning an incident on the 23rd or 24th of December 1813, at Miller's Tavern. The following is found in *History of Buffalo, Volume II, pgs 408-409, By William Ketchum, 1864 Appendix*: General McClure speaking *"I will stay and defend you, if the inhabitants will arrest and bind that damned*

rascal Chapin and bring him to me; if they will not do that, they may all be destroyed and I don't care how soon."

He was able to allow villagers to escape the British attack on Buffalo December 30, 1813 by attempting to negotiate a surrender enabling many citizens to escape at which time he was taken prisoner. It was written, in *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume I, pgs 196-197, 1879 The Village of Buffalo During the War of 1812 read before the Society March 13, 1863,By William Dorsheimer* of him that he ordered those manning the cannon which at this time was aimed at the British troops which were in the woods of the then Franklin Square Burial Ground *"Don't fire that gun, I will fire it replied a citizen volunteer named Kane, I'll cleave to the earth the first man who touches it. I've shown a flag of truce."* At this time Chapin advanced, under flag, towards the British to negotiate the above mentioned truce.

In an extract of a letter, found in *History of Buffalo, By William Ketchum, 1864, Volume II, pgs. 166-167,* written from Lieut. General Drummond to Sir George Prevost, Dated York February 15, 1814, Drummond mentions Chapin's actions on December 30, 1813, when Black rock and Buffalo were attacked and burned. *"It appears that he was not only extremely active during the action at Black Rock, on the morning of the 30th December, but afterwards retreated with the American army to Buffalo, where I understand he assumed the command of the force that remained there, and having taken a commanding position in front of the town, considerably annoyed our troops with round and grape shot from a six pounder, whilst they were advancing; and as I have been informed, it was not until he found that his exertions to arrest their progress were without effect that he came out from Buffalo as a self constituted flag of truce, at a time when our forces were in full pursuit of the American army. It was not until some time after Buffalo had been taken possession of that Maj. Gen. Riall, having mentioned to me that he had ordered Col. Chapin to remain in arrest at his house, until he was made acquainted with my intentions with regard to him, that I directed the Major General to send him across the water in charge of an officer, considering him a prisoner of war."* In relation to this, according to *The Documentary History of the Campaigns upon the Niagara Frontier In 1812-14 By Lieut. Col. Ernest Cruikshank, Volume IX, December 18143- May 1814, 1908 pg 67,* the following is an excerpt of a letter written by Lieutenant General Drummond to Sir George Prevost, Buffalo 30th December, 1813, regarding Chapin which reads *"About seventy prisoners are in our hands, amongst whom the famous Dr. or Colonel Chapin, whom in consequence of his former escape, I have sent off towards Quebec by an officer and dragoons."* Of course the previous escape mentioned is that of his flight from captivity after the battle of Beaver Dams on June 24, 1813 whole he was being transported by boat. From this same reference, *pg 77,* regarding the capture of Dr. Chapin, the Kingston Gazette, dated Buffalo at night, 30th Dec. 1813, reports *"We are informed that the famous, or rather infamous quack, Doctor Chapin is among the prisoners."*
According to *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society Volume XXIX, The War of 1812 on the Niagara Frontier, By Louis L. Babcock 1927, War Losses on the Niagara Frontier, pg 258, Mrs. Chapin would receive $50.00 from the Committee of Safety and Relief of Canandaigua for her losses.*

An article written in the *Buffalo Express, December 11, 1911, entitled "One Hundred Years Ago"* mentions the following about Dr. Chapin: *"Dr. Cyrenius Chapin was Buffalo's first and leading physician; his practice extended all over the county and beyond it, even into Canada. He was an energetic, rather excitable man. And the head and front of everything that went on. He sometimes read sermons at religious gatherings; often officiated at funerals, some of which may not improbably have been the result of his own administration; organized a military company at an early date to whom he gave the commands not in infrequently in emphatic language. In fact one irreverent youth described him "as the man who did the praying, the swearing and the burying for the entire community."*

An indication of the mood towards Chapin exhibited by the War Department, in 1814, may be indicated by an excerpt of a *letter from J. Armstrong, Secretary of War to General Jacob Brown, dated June 2, 1814, Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society Library, manuscript# 29.* In it he writes *"If you enter Canada the laws of War will govern. Dr. Chapin is not to be employed, nor permitted to follow the enemy under any pretence."* Obviously Chapin either was pardoned from prison or expected to be soon. Dr Chapin would publish in 1836 a personal *work "Defence of the Authors Conduct at the Battle of Beaver Dams June 24, 1813" entitled "To the People of the United States."* This would be his public reply to the many accusations, by his peers, concerning this terrible defeat by the Americans at Beaver Dams in which some held him personally responsible for the American defeat. According to the *Buffalo Times, June 26, 1927, "Doctor Chapin died in February, 1838, and was buried with full military honors in Franklin Square Cemetery."*

Seth Chapin, Lot 1.

This name appears on the Chapin family marker which reads Seth Chapin Died November 12, 1826, 38 years of age. According to *The Documentary History of the Campaign on the Niagara Frontier 1812-14, By E. A. Cruikshank. 1908, Volume IX, pg 88, From the Ontario Messenger of January 25, 1814,* it states the name of Seth Chapin as *"Taken by the British in the battle of Black rock and belonging to the militia of the State of New York, under the command of Major General Hall."*

Amelia Chapin, Lot 1.

On the one side of this monument is inscribed the name of Amelia, daughter of Cyrenius Chapin. This inscription is a cenotaph in memory of her. She and her younger sister Louisa, below, as mentioned, escaped Buffalo, on December 30, 1813, under the guidance and protection of 13 year old **Hiram Pratt., Section 1.** While conducting their flight to safety it was written in *Sketch of the Life of Samuel F. Pratt, by William P. Letchworth, Buffalo, New York, pg 78-79, 1874 that "They crossed the creek and pursued their way with the straggling crowd, hurrying along the lake shore. A militia man running away told the children to hurry, or the Indians would catch them. "Why don't you stop and fight them, you coward?" replied the elder, (Amelia) of the two brave little Chapin girls."* Amelia died in Geneva, NY on August 15, 1818 at the age of 18.

Louisa M. Chapin Weed, Lot 1. (Weed Lot Adjacent to Chapin Lot)

She was the daughter of Cyrenius Chapin and had married Thaddeus Weed in the early 30's. Louisa and her older sister Amelia, adjacent, lot, mentioned above, would evacuate Buffalo, as the British attacked on December 30, 1813, with **Hiram Pratt, Section 1**, till safe at the Chapin farm some ten miles south of Buffalo. They conducted this journey entirely on foot. The account of their exodus is included with Hiram Pratt's entry.

Dr. John E. Marshall, Lot 6.

According to *The History of Buffalo and Erie County 1620-1884, Volume II Biographical ,pgs 52-53, 1884, By H. Perry Smith, "On the 15th of April, 1812, Dr. John Marshall was appointed Surgeon to the Second Regiment of the New York State Militia. On the 20th of December 1813, he was ordered to join his regiment in Buffalo and serve five months on the Niagara Frontier, when his regiment was disbanded. He again took the filed on the 1st of August, 1814 his regiment being encamped near Buffalo, where he remained during the remainder of the season. The fevers, diarrhea, and other diseases which prevailed in the army, crowded the hospitals and developed upon Dr. Marshall, a senior surgeon, arduous and responsible duties. His cares, exposure and fatigue seriously impaired his health and rendered him an invalid during the remainder of his life. In 1812 appointed Surgeon Second Regt. NY Militia; was in Buffalo just prior to the burning of the Village by the British; Regt was disbanded; he returned to Buffalo August 1, 1814 and treated the wounded and sick of the Niagara Campaign. The fatigue of this duty and the exposure rendered him physically handicapped for the remainder of his life."*

Samuel Pratt Jr. and Sophia Pratt, Lot 7.

Samuel Pratt Jr. was a son of Capt. Samuel Pratt Sr. and Sheriff of Niagara County in 1810. At the outbreak of the war he was appointed an Adjutant to General Peter B. Porter. He continued a dry good business after the death of his father, Samuel Sr., died September 1812, cenotaph Section F, and was able to get his family evacuated on the day Buffalo was burned. His residence in 1813 was located on the Northwest corner of Van Staphorst and Eagle Sts., today Main and Eagle Sts. He remained in the Village during the attack and fought fires with **Ebenezer Walden, Section X,** and others till their escape. The following excerpt is from *"Sketch of the Life of Samuel F. Pratt" By William P. Letchworth, pg 81, Buffalo, New York, 1874,* tells of an incident involving Samuel Pratt Jr.: *"Once during the season of devastation, as he was going from the village to the farm on horseback, he caught sight of a couple of Indians skulking behind a large beech tree. Near him was a man who had worked for him, by the name of Triscott, about twenty three years of age. Mr. Pratt shouted Indians! Run Triscott, for your life. He had scarcely uttered the words before a rifle ball whizzed over his horse's back and poor Triscott fell dead and was scalped. Mr. Pratt, with his fleet horse, was out of range of the deadly rifle before it could be reloaded. This occurred near the foot of Michigan Street."* Although there is no date or time of this incident, the Buffalo Gazette, in its first edition after the burning of Buffalo, listed a "John Trisket," from

Buffalo, as being killed in the battles of December 30, 1813, at Black Rock and Buffalo. Could this have been the same person and the right time?

His wife Sophia it was recalled by Martha St John Skinner, in *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society Volume IX, pgs 339-340, 1906 Story of the St John House that "After daylight we arrived at a log tavern. I do not remember the name of the people who lived there. We went into the first room we could, and that was a large room with a large log fire. We were nearly benumbed with the cold, and when we approached the fire I saw Mrs. Sophia Pratt, wife of Samuel Pratt and mother of Mr. Samuel F. Pratt. She was sitting in one corner and watching some cooking going on for breakfast. She reached out her hand and took my hand and drew mew to her and placed me between herself and the fire, keeping my hands against her head and face to drive out the pain from my fingers and saying kind words and comforting us all she could. I often think of her and think what a dear good woman she was."*

In the *Sketch of the Life of Samuel F. Pratt" By William P. Letchworth, 1874, pgs 74-75, Buffalo, New York,* the following is written about that day Mrs. Pratt was leaving Buffalo with her children and a young servant girl named Tam,. *"Mr. Pratt having seen his family started then went to assist his neighbors in the defense of the public interests. The Pratt's had proceeded but a short distance, when Mrs. Pratt discovered she had left her silver upon the mantel in the house. Tam wanted to go back for it, but Mrs. Pratt forbade her, being afraid she might run into danger; but Tam slipped off the wagon before Mrs. Pratt knew it, and ran back for the silver. She returned soon and reported that the soldiers and Indians were in the front room and had all the earthenware jars on the table and were enjoying the sweetmeats and mince pie. Tam rode a little further, then quietly got off the wagon, and they never saw her afterwards. It is to be presumed that she gave her whole mind and time subsequently to the preservation of Mrs. Pratt's silver from the British."*

According to the *National Archives Record Group 94,* the roster of Chapin's Detachment of New York Volunteers includes the name of a Private Samuel Pratt as a member of this detachment. I have been unable to verify if this is the same person. Also, according to the *Buffalo Gazette, November 24, 1812,* it mentions of Samuel Pratt that "*General P.B. Porter, we learn is to take command of the volunteers. Dr. C. Chapin is appointed Major, Samuel Pratt Esq. adjutant."*

Sophia C. Pratt, Lot 7.

Sophia was the daughter of Samuel Jr. and Sophia Fletcher Pratt. She would marry Dr. Gorhman Flint Pratt, who was no relation to the Pratt family of Buffalo. After removing to Black Rock and then in Buffalo, Dr. Pratt formed a partnership with Dr. Cyrenius Chapin and that continued till the death of Dr. Chapin.

Although only three years old at the time of the British attack on Black Rock and Buffalo, December 30, 1813, Mrs. Sophia C. Pratt, before her death would jot down the account of that day and what she recalled. The following are excerpts of what was written in the *Buffalo Times, December 27, 1903, entitled Buffalo's burning is recalled, story of Sophia C. Pratt. "I was only three years old at the time, but even at that early age incidents in stirring events will sometimes flash a picture on the mind that remains fresh and distinct in the memory for ever afterward. It was the last day but one of December if my memory serves me that the British marched into Buffalo and helped themselves to my mother's preserves those rogues of Britishers. It was a beautiful bright morning and the sun was shining on the snow that thinly covered the frozen ground and clung to the limbs of the trees and the twigs that lined the main road. It was not much after breakfast when we heard the cries The British are Coming! The British soldiers came on into the village and at once began pillaging the homes. People began to bundle their household goods and a little food and their children into wagons and setoff up the Lake shore, and we were among them. Of course there was a great crowd of fugitives from the village following the wagons. The night before the attack my mother had mixed a batch of bread. She had not had time to bake it before the British came, and before getting into the bag she slipped it into a pillow case and put it in the end of the wagon. At the first stopping place we went to look for our bread and found it had been stolen by some follower. It was not until the third day after leaving Buffalo that we had a full meal. We came to a house that had evidently been deserted in a hurry, for there were some pigs freshly slaughtered lying on benches in the kitchen. So my father cut some pieces from the tenderloin and roasted them and we made out a very good meal. We had to go very slowly. There was not enough snow for sleighing and just enough snow to make the roads boggy and the poor horses would flounder in the mud to their knees. When we came back to Buffalo several weeks later nothing remained of the village but the chimneys of houses and half burned logs. It was a desolate looking place and remained so for two years."* Her brothers **Samuel F. Section X, and Lucius, Section G,** were also with Sophia during her flight.

SECTION ONE

Hiram Pratt, Lot 37.

He was the brother of Samuel F. Pratt When Buffalo was burned, on December 30, 1813, Hiram was only thirteen years of age and the following account was printed of his heroics on that day: From the *Centennial History of Erie County, New York, By Crisfield Johnson, pg 251, Buffalo, New York, 1876, "Dr. Chapin in leaving for the field in the morning, told his two girls, one eleven and the other nine years old, that they must take care of themselves, directing them to go to his farm in Hamburg, ten miles distant. Their only protector was Hiram Pratt, then a member of the Doctor's family and but thirteen years old. The girls and their young knight set out through the snow, and on passing the Pratt homestead, Hiram persuaded his sister Mary, eleven years old, to accompany them. At Smoke's Creek they were overtaken by a wagon containing the Pratt family, and Mary was taken on board. Nothing, however, could induce Hiram or the Chapin girls to accept of such assistance. They had started to do the heroic, and were bound to go through with it. And go through with it they did, making the whole ten miles on foot through the snow; an amazing feat for two girls of that age."*

Above it is mentioned that Hiram was part of the Doctor's family. An explanation of that is as follows from the *Buffalo Evening News, March 1, 1961 "Dr. Chapin, Buffalo's first physician, had lost a son about Hiram's age. So he persuaded the Pratt's to let this one of their ten children make his home with him. The physician and Hiram's mother were anxious for him to be a doctor too. Hiram refused. Hiram Pratt, like his forbearers, had a talent for business and finance. He was progressive. He gave powerful impulse to the development of Buffalo Village into a city in 1832."*

Hiram was appointed Mayor of Buffalo in 1835 and 1839. He was last mayor to be "appointed" meaning in 1840 the Mayor of Buffalo would be elected by the people rather than by the city council and that would be Sheldon Thompson, Section K.

Dr. Josiah Trowbridge and wife Margaret "Polly" Wintermute Trowbridge, Lot 45, 46.

Physician; volunteer; treated those wounded on the night of October 9, 1812 during capture of British schooners Detroit and Caledonia. It was written in *Benson Lossing's Pictorial Filed Book of the War of 1812, 1869, footnote, pg 387, that "The injured on board the Caledonia were brought on shore in a boat. It could not quite reach the land on account of shoal water, when Doctor Josiah Trowbridge, a resident of Buffalo, waded in and bore some of them to dry land on his back. They were taken to the house of Orange Dean at the old ferry and were cared for. While Dr. Trowbridge was removing a musket ball from the neck of a wounded man, a twenty four pound shot entered the house, struck a chimney just over their heads and covered them with bricks, mortar and splinters."* According to the same reference and page *footnote #5 "Dr. Trowbridge acting as a gunner"* he was on a on the boat during the attempted recovery of the British schooner Detroit which laid off of Squaw Island on the same day of this action.
In *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume IX, 1906, Edited By Frank Severance, Papers Related to the Burning of Buffalo, By (Mrs. Jonathan Sidway) Parnell St John, pg 321,* she describes activity on both sides of the River during the summer of 1812: *"During the summer of 1812 nothing, or very little, was done by the United States Government in the way of prosecuting the war on this frontier, evidently knowing too little about the needs and conditions, and expecting the principal strife to be carried out on the ocean, or somewhere else than this locality. The battery at first of one gun near this place called Fort Adams, was put in place at or near Black Rock ferry, now foot of Niagara Street, and from there an irregular cannonading went on with the Canadian side, Waterloo, for the space of six weeks. Among the events which took place during that battery practice was an evidence of the skill of the late venerable Dr. Josiah Trowbridge, then an enterprising young man. He so sighted his gun that at the second discharge it knocked the ram-rod, a hand spike, from the hands of a Canadian gunner across the river and for a brief space dispersed their gunnery and quieted their guns. Not long after the query came across the river as to who handled our gun on that day."*

In April, 1813, Dr. Trowbridge would be involved in the following incident on Strawberry Island. Written in the *History of the City of Buffalo and Erie County, Volume I, Edited by H. Perry Smith, 1884, pg.137; "Until April, the War was apparently frozen up. Early in that month the Buffalonians were sharply reminded that they must be careful where they strayed. Lieutenant Dudley of the navy, Dr. Trowbridge, Mr.*

Frederick B. Merrill and three seamen, while hunting on Strawberry Island, were discovered from the Canadian shore, a squad of men was sent across, and all were captured. The two civilians were released, but the lieutenant and his men were of course retained."

A related account of this incident appeared in the *Buffalo Times, March 2, 1919* somewhat "juiced up". *"Dr. Trowbridge was fond of the gun and one snappy April day, he with Lieut. Dudley of Perry's command, Frederick B. Merrill and three seamen went down the river to Strawberry Island for ducks. From the Canadian shore they were spied by troopers, a squad was sent across and they were surprised, captured and taken to Fort George. While incarcerated the blood thirsty Indians in the service of the British broke into their quarters and for a time their safety seemed precarious. However, the interposition of officers and chiefs prevented a massacre and after being held for a few days, Dr. Trowbridge and Mr. Merrill were discharged. Lieut. Dudley and his men retained, and after a tedious journey on foot they reached Buffalo full of a realization of the undercurrent of cruelty ready to burst upon the pioneers unless they were protected and of their very narrow escape from a cruel death."*

Dr. Trowbridge was also present on the ill fated ferry crossing of a few citizens from Black Rock to Fort Erie on December 12, 1813, when an Arden Merrill was killed by a party of British soldiers. This account is in detail for the entry of **Lester Brace, Section X.** It is written in *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume I, pg 105, 1879, The Old Black Rock Ferry by Charles D. Norton* that *"The passengers had hardly landed, when they were seized as prisoners, with the exception of Dr. Trowbridge and Mr. Pomeroy, who escaped to the woods. The British party then fired into the boat, already out in the river. Merrill was killed; his body, stripped of boots and watch, was afterward recovered under a flag of truce. One of the passengers was never afterward heard of; another was taken prisoner, and subsequently released at Halifax. Dr. Trowbridge and his companions found their way to Baxter's six miles above the ferry, and there seized upon a boat against the remonstrance of the proprietor, who was not disposed to aid their escape, and got safely back to Buffalo Creek."*

The following are accounts of Dr. Trowbridge and his daring exploits to secure a wife. They are from the *Buffalo Times, March 2, 1919, Buffalo Scrapbooks, Grosvenor Room Buffalo and Erie County Library: "From a letter dated October 11, 1813, written to his brother, which shows his new wife a bride. He says: I will now inform you something of myself and family, for you must know I am married. I am not a friend to the war, but I could not forbear engaging in an expedition. On the 19th of September, 1813, I crossed into the Province of Upper Canada and succeeded, with the assistance of Cupid, (who by the way is a good general) in capturing one of his Majesty's subjects without bloodshed. I have her now in close confinement and hope I shall be able to keep possession until I have the pleasure of presenting her to you." Dr. Josiah Trowbridge was married in Buffalo on September 22, 1813, to Margaret Wintermute of Bertie as he was associated with Dr. Cyrenius Chapin in the practice of medicine."*

In regards to this same story, the following was written in the *Times, July 30, 1929,* which includes a discrepancy of the year of the incident citing 1814 rather than 1813: *"But a more daring adventurer at the Court of Dan Cupid was Josiah Trowbridge, M.D. In fact he was a bold kidnapper during the early days of the War of 1812, and really captured the first prisoner, a very willing one, taken in Canada and brought to Buffalo indeed, the young woman in the case became a life prisoner. Having resided in Fort Erie in 1811, after coming to Buffalo, Dr. Trowbridge met Miss Margaret Wintermute a young and lovely Canadian Miss and daughter of a well know and respected family. They became engaged just before the declaration of War in 1812 and the gallant young physician having joined a Buffalo artillery company clandestinely visited his affianced bride elect and they planned to elope to Buffalo on the night of September 19, 1814 under the helpful beams of a harvest moon. It was an extremely dangerous exploit, but highly successful. The mighty and fearsome river surged tremendously as young Trowbridge, accompanied by a courageous and hardy friend, rowed as silently as possible to the trysting point. The fair Margaret was there, with a carpetbag filled with such articles of wearing apparel as she required, and in spite of the river, patrols and many armed defenders of the frontier, the adventure was splendidly successful, and reaching the Black Rock shore, the young woman was quickly hustled into a waiting coach and taken to the home of a friend. Three days later, on September 22, 1814, the marriage of Dr. Josiah Trowbridge and Miss Margaret Wintermute and many military officers and friends witnessed the happy ceremony."*
This is quite a story. However, I cannot believe the marriage had the blessings of the Wintermute family. Margaret's father was Benjamin Wintermute, a member of a very strong Loyalist family who settled in Canada after the Wyoming Massacre of July 3, 1778, leaving other members of their family behind who supported the Patriots. Benjamin was a Butler Ranger, as other members of his family were, and was awarded 150 acres in 1801, along the Niagara River, in Bertie, now Fort Erie, for his loyal service.

Benjamin had two sons, brothers of Margaret who died during the War of 1812. Abraham died November 12, 1812 from illness. This may have been the same plaque that entered upon the Niagara Frontier during that time that killed so many soldiers and citizens. Brother Phillip was killed in a skirmish at Fort Erie in the fall of 1814 while on a scouting mission. Just an opinion, but I find it hard to believe that Benjamin would support the marriage of his daughter to a Cousin Jonathan, (what Americans were called at that time) at this time. Also, if the date of September 19, 1814 is correct for the "romantic kidnapping" of Margaret, that was really something because the Sortie from Fort Erie was fought on September 17, 1814; Drummond was still encamped till the 21st of September, before withdrawing to the Chippawa, and the whole area would have been abuzz!

A note in regard to the Wintermoot (Wintermute) family at Wyoming, a fort named after them, and to the death of Phillip Wintermute, a Lieutenant in the local militia is as follows from *Border Wars of the American Revolution, By William L. Stone, 1843, Chapter XV: "The fort was thus called after the proprietor of the land whereupon it was built, and the adjacent territory, a distinguished Tory named Wintermoot (Wintermute). He was active in bringing destruction upon the valley, and after doing all the mischief he could to the settlement, removed to Canada. During the war with England in 1812-15, while the British were investing Fort Erie, a son of old Wintermoot, a lieutenant in the enemy's service, was killed by a volunteer from the neighborhood of Wyoming. Young Wintermute was reconnoitering one of the American pickets, when he was shot down by the said volunteer, who was engaged in the same service against picket of the enemy. The volunteer returned into the Fort, bringing in the arms and commission of the officer he had slain as a trophy."*

A few more notes on Josiah, according to Dr. John S. Trowbridge, from the Times, March 2, 1919 *"In common with a large political party, not recognizing its absolute necessity, he was at no time in the regular service, but was attached to a volunteer company of artillery and always ready to respond when humanity or the interests of his country made a demand upon him. During the war my father, with most of the early settlers had many adventures. At the burning of the village of Buffalo, he, with others, remained engaged in securing the safety of the women and children and was among the last to leave. As he passed up Main St, he was fired upon by the Indians from ambuscade and with other refugees he spent the winter and part of the spring at various localities east of Buffalo."*

From the *Times February 23, 1919 it was written "Dr. Trowbridge was advised to try Fort Erie and did so locating there for years, but making daily visits to Buffalo. A true blue American he came to Buffalo to reside when it was seen that war between England and the United States was inevitable, so in 1812 he took up residence here. He joined the Buffalo light Artillery Company and in the first assault on Black Rock, Dr. Trowbridge, under heavy fire, attended to the wounded."*

Another account of Doctor Trowbridge being engaged in the war effort is from the *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Picture Book of Earlier Buffalo, Volume XVI, 1912, Edited By Frank Severance, Early Black Rock Facts, pg 255, #2,* In a reference to the map provided of Black Rock, *pg 250, the following is written "Sandy ridge behind which some men took shelter from the enemy's guns. They were engaged the day before Buffalo was burned in towing vessels belonging to Joshua Lovejoy up the rapids, when the enemy opened fire upon them. They were obliged to swing the vessel ashore and retreated behind the sand ridge, which was full protection. The vessel had several shot through her, but was not disabled. Her guns were soon brought to bear on the enemy and they were driven off. Dr. Trowbridge served one of our guns."*

He was Mayor of Buffalo in 1837. There are no individual grave markers for the Doctor and his wife.

William Hodge Sr., Lot 23.

The following series of accounts are from the *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society Volume XXVI, Recalling Pioneer Days, William Hodge Papers, pgs 169-314,1922*: He built the "Brick Tavern on the Hill" situated on the southwest corner of Main and Utica Sts., toady, during the winter of 1812-13. He furnished nearly three hundred pine coffins, *pg 179*, to bury the soldiers who died while encamped on Flint Hill, on what is now Main St. between Jewett Ave and Conjockety Creek in the Cemetery; On December 30, 1813 he secured an army baggage wagon to evacuate his family to Harris Hill tavern in Clarence out of harms way, and he later would follow with articles. On this day it was written, *pgs 180-181, "The day was cold, though not extremely so. The ground was frozen, with a light covering of snow. After the family had gone, Mr. Hodge, entirely alone and anxious to save something more, yoked the oxen, hitched them to the cart, brought it up to the door, flung in some more bedding, a baking of bread,*

which he came across in the large wooden bread tray and a few other articles and drove off. As he thus left his own home, he looked towards the village and saw the smoke of its burning houses rising high into the air, and expected nothing but that he would be obliged after all to leave his team and run for his life; for the British Indians had been seen at the edge of the woods, some sixty rods west of the house, before he left. But it so happened that he was not molested in his flight. He drove out to Harris Hill Tavern, and had the joy of finding his family all safe."

He would return on January 1, 1814 to find the Tavern in flames and his neighbor Richard Keep dead on the road. Finding his neighbor dead, his property destroyed, William Hodge, with rifle in hand crossed the road to his barn hoping to find the enemy and seek vengeance on the despoilers. But he neither obtained vengeance nor lost his life and returned to Harris Hill. The account of this burning is referred to in the entry for **Benjamin Hodge Sr., Section F.** A David Eddy from Hamburg NY, who was visiting the village and captured, led the British to the Hodge's Tavern to save himself. However, two people were killed; the Tavern burnt, young Benjamin Hodge taken prisoner as was David Eddy. As a result of this, Mrs. William Hodge Sr., would never forgive David Eddy for what he did. It was written, *pgs 225-226,* that *"Mr. Eddy came frequently to Mr. Hodge's Tavern as a guest and sometimes brought his wife with him. The reason that he gave for informing the enemy of the stored property was that he hoped to receive favors. Mr. Hodge and Mr. Eddy were always on good terms after as well as before this event. But things were not so friendly and pleasant between Mrs. Hodge and Mr. Eddy. She had worked hard for some ten years or more, and a part of this time amidst the dangers, tumult and desolations of a war; and so having with her husband accumulated their property, she naturally felt that Mr. Eddy was the cause of its destruction, and was not loth to lay the charge to him in pretty plain language; so that he had not much peace of his life when stopping at the Tavern. The matter was quited by the following compromise Mrs., Hodge was to discontinue all controversy and to relinquish all claims either at law or in equity against Mr. Eddy, for the loss of the house and household goods, which exceeded eight thousand dollars in value, on his paying in cash down, to Mrs. Hodge the full sum and amount of twenty dollars! After Mrs. Hodge received the sum as the settlement of her claim against Mr. Eddy, she invested it, upon due consideration in the purchase, from our silversmith, a set of large silver spoons for her table."*

It was also written, *pg 227,* that on that same day of the Tavern burning that *"At this time, also, a half breed British Indian had come on to the Main Road just above Cold Spring, to my father's joiner shop, where household goods and some clothing were stored. He had made up a bundle of such things as he desired, and had brought them out and laid them over the fence. He had then gone to our dwelling house, which had just been set on fire taken a brand, and crossed the road to fire the barn, when the horsemen came up from the direction of Cold Spring and took him prisoner. He was put in charge of a Dr. Tourtelot, who, with another man, took him to or near Batavia, where he was shot and killed. It was reported that he had attempted to escape."*

Mr. William Hodge Sr returned to his home in a few days, by some accounts the first to return after the burning. He began to rebuild and his tavern was reportedly the second structure erected after the burning; Innkeeper Ralph Pomeroy was the first; The Brick Tavern appears to have been the furthest north residence to be burned by the British before they permanently retreated across the river later on January 1, 1814.

In 1814, after he returned to his home and along with everything else it appears Mr. Hodge was "drafted" for service in the Army. The following is mentioned in *Publication Buffalo Historical Society Volume XXVI Recalling Pioneer Days, The William Hodge Papers, pg 183, Edited by Frank Severance, 1922, "And about this time he was drafted into the army. But he procured a substitute who was accepted. He paid him thirty dollars as bounty, and agreed to pay, In addition ten dollars monthly, but was never called upon for the monthly payments. It was supposed that this substitute deserted."*
William Hodge Sr. was first buried, in 1848, in the old North Street Cemetery removed here to Forest Lawn at a later date so the Masten Ave. Armory could be built where the cemetery use to be.

Also buried in this plot are William Hodge's wife Sally Abbott, her sister Mrs. Sabrina Abbott Howes and Julia who was the youngest child, but two months old, of Mr. and Mrs. William Hodge Sr. when Buffalo was burned on December 30, 1813. They all were evacuated from the Brick Tavern to Harris Hill Tavern three miles east of Williamsville.

Jesse Ketchum Lot 99.

According to *Dictionary of Canadian Biographies Online, Library and Archives Canada, Jesse* was born at Spencertown, NY on March 31, 1782 and came to York, Toronto today, and joined his brother

who had come to Upper Canada in 1796 to farm. He got into the tanning business at then outbreak of the war and profited greatly from the demands for supplies for the troops. *"At the beginning of the War Ketchum joined the 3rd Regiment of York Militia, and was among those paroled after the capitulation of York to the Americans in 1813. Nevertheless, his loyalty came under suspicion during the brief American occupation, and he was one of those whom Attorney General John Beverley Robinson was subsequently directed to have arrested and tried if, upon inquiry, that action seemed justified. No arrest occurred, but the episode no doubt had a lasting effect upon Ketchum."*

In 1814, while visiting a prison in Montreal with American prisoners captured at Fort Erie, he and his wife would personally "adopt" **Thomas Love, Section F**, and supply him with food and bandages for his wounds which were inflicted during the Sortie at Fort Erie on September 17, 1814 and where he was captured and made a prisoner. Thomas Love would be sent to Quebec and later released from prison; the two would meet again for the first time since then in the early 1840's when Ketchum moved to Buffalo. See Thomas Love Section F.

Jesse Ketchum was also a benefactor to churches and schools in Toronto and Buffalo. According to *Municipality of Buffalo, New York a History 1720-1923, Volume II, 1923 pg 582, "Jesse Ketchum in 1852 or 53 bought a lot and built a chapel on Delaware Avenue above North Street and "cradled" the Westminster Society which was formed on April 11, 1853. Jesse Ketchum's "plain brick chapel was built in 1847 at his own expense."* In 1859 the present church was dedicated. All made possible by Jesse Ketchum. Also, with the Buffalo Schools, according to the same reference mentioned above, *pg 523; "The name Ketchum will probably have place in buffalo school records for many years to come. The name is perpetuated in this connection by the Jesse Ketchum Memorial fund, which was founded in 1871, by B.H. Brennan, a son-in-law of Mr. Ketchum. The proceeds of the memorial fund to be used for the purchase of medals, gold and silver, to be presented to scholars showing remarkable advancement in normal, high, or elementary schools."* These medals are still presented today.

SCAJAQUADA CREEK

Historically known as *Conjockety Creek*. The following was written in an undated article of the *Buffalo Evening News "Indian who passed 100 gave name to Scajaquada Creek. A proud Indian once lived along the sleepy stream that flows through Forest Lawn and Park Lake. His name was John Kenjockety, sometimes spelled Conjockety, which means beyond the multitude. He built a wigwam on the banks of the creek, shaded by maple, elm and oak. The Indian claimed he was the grandson of the last survivor of the ancient Neutral Nation, conquered by the Iroquois in 1651. Although a captive of the Seneca tribe, Kenjockety was a man of influence among them. He planted corn on Squaw Island, fished the waters for crimson finned perch and died a victim of white man's rum. His son Philip also became a great man among the Seneca Indians. He lived to be over 100. Like his father he proudly preserved the memory of his ancestors. A historical tablet on the east side of the Elmwood Ave Bridge crossing Scajaquada Creek testifies that the stream is named after him."*

The creek was also known as *Granger's Creek* after Erastus Granger, this being his property. It was also known as Four mile creek, meaning it is four miles from the mouth of Buffalo Creek, a means of identifying distances with geographical reference points back then. The bridge over it at Niagara Street was a critical military position. During the encampments on Flint Hill, the creek was a source of water and the banks provided a trail for the Native Americans to reach the River.

This creek has a military history and some of its happenings are as follows: near the mouth of this creek, to the west at the Niagara River, five vessels were refitted for Commodore Oliver Perry's Lake Erie fleet and of which three would be engaged in the Battle of Lake Erie on September 10, 1813. these vessels were the Caledonia, Somers, formerly the Catherine, Trippe, formerly the Contractor, Ohio, and the Amelia, formerly the General Wilkeson which was determined unfit for combat. The following is from the *History of the Battle of Lake Erie, By Capt. W.W. Dobbins, Second Edition, 1913, pg 26,* which tells of the vessels leaving the creek and entering Lake Erie on June 6, 1813; *"On the 6thn of June, the vessels being ready, the tedious work of tracking them up the rapids commenced. This arduous task lasted a week. In addition to ox teams and sailors, they had the assistance of two hundred soldiers, under the command of Captains Brevoot and Youngs. On the morning of the 13th the last vessel got safely out of the rapids."* The short distance from the creek south to Lake Erie, maybe two miles, took a week. This was a result of lack of wind but mostly the mighty Niagara's powerful current. This was the same day of course, June 6, that

the ferry accident occurred which took the lives of **Gamaliel St John** and his son **Elijah. See Section 2, Lot 45** for that account. The reference also states that on that day ice was flowing down the river causing problems for the vessels.

An article written in the *Commercial Advertiser, April 25, 1849,* mentions the following: *"The workmen grading the new track of the Buffalo and Falk railroad at Scajaquada Creek yesterday dug up some coffins containing the remains of bodies buried in the War of 1812. The coffins were much decayed, and their contents, for the most part had shrunk to a few blackened bones. On the skull of one body, however, was found a quantity of raw cotton , which had been used to staunch the flow of blood, and which still retained after the lapse of nearly forty years the bright fresh color of blood newly shed." There was no mention as to what was done with the remains. The article went on to say "The creek takes it name from a very worthy Indian, whom served as chain bearer to Judge Porter, when that gentleman was engaged in surveying this section of the country."*

While troops were encamped here during the fall and winter of 1812-13, the creek provided water. Also at the western end of the Creek, near its mouth at the Niagara River, five vessels were refitted for Com. Oliver Perry's fleet. According to the *History of the Battle of Lake Erie, Capt. W.W. Dobbins, Second Edition, 1913, pg 26,* it is written *"On the 6th of June, the vessels being ready, the tedious work of tracking them up the rapids commenced. This arduous task lasted a week. In addition to ox teams and sailors, they had the assistance of two hundred soldiers, under the command of Capt. Brevoort and Youngs. On the morning of the 13th, the last vessel got safely out of the rapids."*

Also, the bridge at the Conjockey, at this location was the scene of at least two engagements with the British. On the night of the 29th and 30th of December 1813, the British crossed the river, captured the bridge and commenced to attack Black Rock and Buffalo on the 30th. On the night of August 2nd and 3rd the British once again crossed the river, and attempted to capture the bridge and commence attacks on Black Rock and Buffalo again. However, this time they were repulsed by Major Lodowick Morgan, Franklin Square, Section N, and his riflemen. This bridge and creek appear to have been of military importance during the war.

The following article is from *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume I, 1879, Buffalo Cemeteries Soldiers Burial Places, pg 66, by William Hodge Jr.* and it mentions Conjockety Creek and soldier burials conducted there: *"Conjockety Creek: While our Kentucky Riflemen were stationed on the south bank of Conjockety Creek, in 1814, there were many graves made nearby for those who sickened and died, and also for those who were killed in the battle that took place therein that year. The firing of guns in which battle, I distinctly remember hearing. There were some killed both of the British and our own men, and their bodies were buried there. Those soldier graves have all since been leveled. No mark is left to designate them."* The battle which Mr. Hodge refers to is the Battle of Conjockety Creek fought on the night of August 2,3, August 1814, when the American Riflemen under the command of Major Lodowick Morgan, Section N, Franklin Square, defeated a British attack aimed at destroying boats and supplies at Black Rock and Buffalo. This was a huge victory for the Americans.

The creek starts in Lancaster, NY and runs almost 15 miles to the Niagara River. It is completely underground, for 3.7 miles, from Pine Ridge to Main Street at the cemetery. Serenity Falls, located near the Chapel, has been mentioned as the only natural cascade in the city. It was written that the name Scajaquada had appeared in no less than seventy six variations of spelling over the years on maps and in documents. Although it is probably unlikely that any of the Conjockety's of this time, are buried here at Forest Lawn, it is worthy to note that the following members of the family apparently served the State of New York during the War. According to the Index of Awards on Claims of the Soldiers of the war of 1812, New York Adjutant's Office, 1860, they were compensated with "payment for military clothing, equipment, which were provided by individuals who volunteered or were drafted by the Governor for service in the Militia of the State of New York. The equipment and clothing were depreciated, worn out, loss and destroyed in said service for which he had not received payment." George Kenjockety claim# 13,902 awarded $100.00; Jack Kenjockety claim# 13,976, $100.00; Joe Kenjockety, claim#9,943, by executor, $100.00; Philip Kenjockety, claim# 9,958, $100.00.

Note: There are two Historical markers in place recognizing Scajaquada Creek. One, is located attached to the abutment, underneath the Elmwood Avenue bridge over the creek. This one has included in the inscription "Historic Scajaquada Creek Named After Philip Conjockety." It was erected by the New York State Education Department and the Abigail Fillmore DAR Chapter in 1937; the second is located on Niagara Street, recognizing the Old Navy yard, where in 1813, five vessels were reconditioned for

Commodore Perry's fleet near the mouth of the Creek. This was erected by the New York State Education Department in 1956.

SECTION D

John Lay, Lot 8.

He was a merchant with brother in law Eli Hart which sold household goods, liquor, clothing; store was located Northwest corner Main St and Swan St adjacent to Dr. Chapin's residence. John Lay, early on in the War was a private in Butt's Company, for defense. In *"Old Trails on the Niagara Frontier, By Frank Severance, Second Edition, pg 136, 1903, An Early Buffalo Merchant"* the following was written: *"After starting his relatives to safety, Mr. Lay thought of himself. Mr. Lay went into the house took a long surtout that hung on the wall and put it on. As he stepped out of the door he was taken prisoner. and that night with many others, soldiers and civilians, was carried across the river to Canada. The night of December 30, 1813 was bitterly cold. The captured and the captors made a hard march from Fort Erie to Newark, on Lake Ontario. Under the escort of a body guard, Mr. Lay was allowed to go to the house of Mrs. Secord whom he knew. While there, the enemy surrounded the house and demanded Lay, but Mrs. Secord hid him in a closet, and kept him concealed until Mr. Hart, who had followed with a flag of truce, had learned of his safety. Then the long hard march through Canadian snows to Montreal. The prisoners were put on short rations, were grudgingly given water to drink, and were treated with such unnecessary harshness that Mr. Lay boldly told the officer in charge of the expedition that on reaching Montreal he should report him to the government for violating the laws of civilized warfare. In March he was exchanged at Greenbush, opposite Albany."* Mr. Lay would return to Buffalo and continue his partnership with Eli Hart.

According to the *History of the City of Buffalo and Erie County, 1620-1884, 1884, Volume II, footnote, pg 64, Edited by H. Perry Smith,* the following note was written about Mr. Lay: *"Mr. Lay was taken prisoner that night and taken to Montreal. The last of the following March, (1814) he was exchanged with others at Greenbush, opposite Albany. Mr. Lay was long a prominent business man of Buffalo, and traveled quite extensively in Europe after he retired from active life. One of his sons is the inventor of the well known Lay torpedo boat."* John Lay also knew Charles Clarke, lawyer, who was developing Forest Lawn cemetery in 1849. One day he visited Clarke and pointed to a knoll he thought *"appropriate and pleasant to sleep in when the trials of life had ended."* For John Lay those trials would end on July 10, 1850 and on July 12, 1850 he would be laid to rest by Mr. Clarke in the spot he found so pleasant free of charge. Before this John Lay would speak favorable of the new cemetery and the people of Buffalo would begin to respond favorably to their new cemetery. A much needed endorsement at the time.

Note John Louis Lay, the son of John and Frances Lay, was appointed a Navy engineer during the Civil War and invented the Lay torpedo. He is buried here, in the Lay family lot.

SECTION E

Lt. Bennet Riley, Lot 15.

During the War of 1812 Lt. Riley distinguished himself and won the approbation of his commanding officers. He was a junior officer, enlisting as an Ensign of Rifles in 1813 and was promoted to third lieutenant in the same year serving with the US 1st Rifle Regiment, an elite unit, stationed at Champlain, NY. On June 28, 1814 Major Benjamin Forsyth, of the same unit, crossed the river into Quebec Province, in search for a spy by the name of Perkins. Maj. Forsyth was a well respected, experienced Rifleman, who had done duty on the Niagara Frontier during the summer of 1813 in the woods surrounding Fort George. According to *Guide Book to the Historic Sites of the War of 1812, by Gilbert Collins, pg 204, 1998 "During the spring of 1814 riflemen under the ever active Captain Benjamin Forsyth entered the hamlet of Odletown. That summer Captain Forsyth's riflemen, on June 28th, became engaged in a battle at Odletown, Quebec with Canadian militia and Indians under Capt. Joseph St. Valer Mailoux. Mailloux's troops were known as the "Frontier Light Infantry" and they operated out of Odletown. It was Forsyth's plan to lure the column into an ambush, but in the early stages of the fight Forsyth was hit and mortally wounded. Even so, his skilled riflemen managed to drive off the French Canadians. Captain Forsyth was taken to Judge Moore's house in Champlain, New York where he died the same day. On August 10, 1814 sixteen men of the 1st Rifle Regiment under Lieutenant Riley crossed the border,*

determined to get Captain Mailloux and avenge their leader's death. They staged an ambush which severely wounded Mailloux, and ironically they took him to Judge Moore's house where British surgeons were allowed to treat him. The wounds were mortal however, and he died one week later." In *Green Coats and Glory The United States Regiment of Riflemen 1808-1821, by John C. Fredriksen, Old Fort Niagara Association, 2000*, a portrait of Bennett Riley has written under it *"Forsyth's Avenger."*
The following was written by author Benson Lossing who wrote *The Pictorial Field Book of the War of 1812, footnote, pgs 848-849, 1869,* who in August of 1860, while visiting Buffalo, for information on his book, also visited Forest Lawn Cemetery, the soldier graves and monument located in Section N, Franklin Square, and the gravesite of Major General Bennett Riley. After visiting the Franklin Square Section, he wrote: *"Not far from this public monument, on a gentle, shaded slope, is the grave of General Bennet Riley, who was a soldier in the War of 1812, and was distinguished in the Seminole War and the contest with Mexico. Over it is a handsome marble monument bearing a brief inscription: Major General Bennet Riley, United States Army. Died June 9, 1853, in the sixty sixth year of his age." Footnote same reference: "General Riley was a native of Maryland, and entered the army as ensign in a rifle corps in January, 1813. He remained in the army, and in 1828 was brevetted a major for ten years faithful service. He was brevetted a colonel for good conduct in Florida, brigadier general for his bravery at Cerro Gordo, and major general for his gallant conduct at Contreras. He was made military commander of the Department of Upper California, and was ex officio governor in1849 and 1850."*

Included in *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume XXV, 1921, pg. 152, Souvenirs of Major Gen Bennet Riley,* it is written of him *"The St. Lawrence frontier was the scene of his early military exploits; and the parties of British and Indians from over the lines from La Colle Mills to Lake Champlain, soon came to dread the murderous rifles of the parties commanded by Lt. Riley."*
He would rise through the ranks to Major General; command the Buffalo Barracks before the Mexican War, go off to that War as an aide to General Zachary Taylor, and would return to Buffalo after the War where he died in 1853. Fort Riley Kansas is named after him; so is Riley St. in Buffalo. According to the same article General Riley was presented two swords, by the state of Maryland for his service in the War of 1812 and the Mexican War and they were part of a once display of his belongings.
His home was at 1238 Main St and was not torn down till 1951. Delta Sonic car wash is on the location now, prior to this Bishop Fallon High School occupied the site and prior to that the Diocese of Buffalo owned it and it was used by St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute. After the death of General Riley the city of Buffalo bought it and gave it to a DeWitt C. Littlejohn from Oswego, who was lured to Buffalo to help promote the Board of Trade and the port business.

SECTION F

Thomas Love, Lot 67.

While living in Batavia he enlisted in the Militia when the war started saw action at the American Sortie at Fort Erie on September 17, 1814; wounded and captured. He was sent to Montreal where he was "adopted" by Jesse Ketchum and his wife as described previously. The following excerpt is from *"Maria M. Love the Life and Legacy of a Social Work Pioneer," pg 13, By Karen Bermer Little, 1994 WNY Heritage Institute Canisius College Buffalo, NY: "American soldiers had captured Fort Erie in Ontario, Canada from the British. The British began a siege to the fort in August. When General Peter B. Porter called for men to sortie against the British siege, Thomas Love enlisted and was one of the men who crossed the Niagara River to rescue the American garrison at Fort Erie. When the British attacked the Fort they were defeated by the American troops who were well prepared for the nighttime bayonet assault. During the battle Thomas Love was wounded so gravely that a surgeon recommended his arm be amputated. The next morning young Thomas determined he would rather die than go through life maimed, hid from the surgeon and cared for the wound himself. Ultimately, he lost neither his arm nor his life and recovered enough to continue the fight. Later, he was captured and taken to Montreal as a prisoner of war. Prisoners were given little toe at besides rye bread. Fortunately there was a compassionate couple who visited the prison daily to bring food to the prisoners. They cared for Love until his release when the treaty of Ghent ended the War in 1815. Years later, Mr. and Mrs. Ketchum, prominent Buffaloians and Thomas C. Love were introduced socially. The meeting was a joyful reunion to both parties, for Mr. and Mrs.*

Ketchum were the couple who befriended him as a young soldier and saved him from starvation in the Montreal prison."

The *Commercial on September 8, 1916* would publish a letter written by Thomas Love, dated September 8, 1814 from the "Camp at Buffalo" prior to his crossing over to Canada and taking part in the memorable American Sortie of September 17, 1814. Excerpts of this letter, written to a Bennet Bicknell, of Madison County, New York, are as follows: *"I yesterday had the pleasure of Witnessing a General Review of two Brigades consisting of 4,000 Volunteers who generally appeared to "languish for the fight and to beat the air with brandished swords" and today having been called from the ranks to act as Quarter Master of the First Regiment of the 2nd Brigade and having been notified to appear on the green before the General's Quarters at 11 o'clock a.m.. I had the satisfaction also of seeing 210 Commissioned Officers out of 231 volunteer their services to Gen P. B. Porter to go wherever he may lead. This has been a day in which a soldier would pant to serve his Country feeling the pressure under which it groans; the hour of our attack upon the British Army is still to me unknown. But would hazard an opinion that it will not be long as we are almost constantly under arms and Intelligence has been received of considerable reinforcements coming to the assistance of the British Garrison. You will please to accept of this as a token of friendship not expecting to hear further from me until the fate of the war shall decide whether I am numbered with those whose bones already bleach on the Plains of Chippawa and Bridgewater or to return to enjoy the fruits of my toll in common with my fellow citizens."*

After the war he would return to Batavia to study law. Later he would move to Buffalo. In 1825 he defended the three Thayer Brothers in the murder of John Love who was no relation. The three brothers were found guilty and hung. He would become a congressman and was adamantly opposed to slavery.

Commodore Stephen Champlin, Lot 66.

He first came here in 1813 with his cousin Oliver Hazard Perry on their way to Erie, PA. He was the sailing master on the Schooner the Scorpion during the Battle of Lake Erie on September 10, 1813. It was written in *The Perry's Victory Centenary, State of New York, and Compiled by George D. Emerson, pg 124, 1916, "The first American shot was fired from the Scorpion by Stephen Champlin, and as it chanced, he also fired the last shot of the battle." According to Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume VIII, Edited By Frank Severance, 1905, Life Of Stephen Champlin, pg 393, By George W. Clinton as requested by Oliver H. P. Champlin related to activity during the battle of Lake Erie, September 10, 1813 it states "The enemy soon struck, with the exception of the Little Belt and Chippawa, which were brought to by the Scorpion and Trippe; the Little Belt by the former and so near were they to making their escape that it was 12 p.m. before I came to an anchor under the stern of the Niagara with the Little Belt in tow."*

He would later be severely wounded, in a surprise attack on his ship in 1814 on western Lake Erie which never healed properly causing him pain the rest of his life. He along with his officers was taken prisoner. In relation to this, from the above mentioned reference, *pg 394,* in 1814, *"He continued to do good service, in command of the Tigress, until the night of 3d day of September, when, lying off St. Joseph's Island, she was captured by boarding, by an overwhelming force in boats, after a resistance which may well be called desperate,. In defending his vessel, he and all his officers were wounded. His wounds were made by grape shot, which after passing through the flesh of his right thigh, entered the left one, and shattered the bone. Eighteen days thereafter the ball was extracted, at Mackinac, where he had been taken as a prisoner. He was not long thereafter, paroled, and sent to Erie."*
The following information is from articles written by *Karen Brady of the Buffalo Evening News on January 5th and 7th 1976 "He was given a gold sword for his service during the battle of Lake Erie which was still proudly in the possession of his descendants also to include one of his ships logs, a number of personal letters written by him and in 1976 a great grand daughter had in her possession the barometer from the Scorpion, as the mentioned the ship commanded by Stephen Champlin during the battle of Lake Erie. Also a cane used by Stephen Champlin most of his life which was made from the timbers of the Queen Charlotte, a British prize ship, he commanded after the Battle of Lake Erie."*

The *Dictionary of American Biography describes Stephen Champlin as "stout, thickest, thoroughly upright in character, strictly abstemious, simple and rather rough in manner and dress, generally esteemed and spoken of as (a possible) mayor of Buffalo."* In regards to this, *"he rejected the idea because of his naval obligation which he took seriously even in his 70's"In 1861, nine years before his death at 81, he wrote to the Secretary of the Navy: "I am old and shattered, but what there is left of me is at*

the service of my country." The Navy had commissioned two ships named the USS Champlin in his honor. The first was in 1936, which sunk, and the second in 1942.

In 1860 author Benson Lossing visited Buffalo and Fort Erie, Canada to gather accounts for his book, *Pictorial History of the War of 1812, 1869 and on pgs 846-847*, he would write about his time with Stephen Champlin: *"I was at Fort Erie and other distinguished places near, and in Buffalo, a day or two before I visited the battlegrounds of Chippawa and Niagara in August 1860. It was my good fortune to have the company, on that occasion, of the venerable and war scarred soldier of 1812, Captain now Commodore Stephen Champlin, of the United States Navy. When he learned my errand he seemed to forget his painful wound, unhealed since he received it in the naval service in 1814, and ordering his light carriage, he took me to every place of interest to the historian, the student, and the stranger."*
He would continue his day's journey and conclude same reference as above, with "At a late hour we returned, heated and weary, to the delightful residence of Captain Champlin, in the midst of gardens, and dined. There I saw the eloquent straight sword presented to the hero, and the richly carved easy chair made of the wood of the Lawrence, Perry's flagship." A footnote, same reference, includes the inscription on the sword: "Stephen Champlin, Acting Sailing Master, Lake Erie, 10th September, 1813."

He would live the last 35 years of his life in Buffalo residing for some time on Main St opposite High St. According to the *Buffalo Evening News, January 7, 1976,* written by Karen Brady, it was written of Stephen Champlin's house that "It was built of brick and covered with a stucco made from the Azores. It had two chimneys and was called "Wave Crest" by Stephen Champlin because it had "geological water marks in the ground" which may have proved that this highest point in Buffalo had been once submerged. Located in *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, The War of 1812 on the Niagara Frontier, Volume XXIX, By Louis L. Babcock, 1927, The Changing Town, pg 361,* there is picture of the Champlin House described as *"The Champlin House, on Main Street, opposite High, in its prime."*

He married **Minerva Pomeroy,** January 5, 1817, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Pomeroy. According to *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume IX, Edited By Frank Severance, 1906, Papers Related to the Burning of Buffalo, Story of the St John house, by Martha St John Skinner, pgs 337-338, "As I said, such a great number of troops had marched to Black Rock that the people felt safe. Mrs. Pomeroy and her daughter Minerva, afterwards Mrs. Champlin, and Mrs. Abell and three children were sitting up at our house listening to hear the guns at Black Rock, supposing we were safe, when suddenly the alarm gun boomed up with such an awful burst of thunder as aroused, everybody, and people were soon flying every way for safety."*

According to *All Experts Encyclopedia, "the city of Champlin, Minnesota, located along the Mississippi river surrounded by the cities of Anoka, Dayton, Brooklyn Park, Maple Grove and Osseo, gets its name from U.S. Navy Commodore Stephen Champlin who fought in the war of 1812."*

Lieut. Col. Timothy S. Hopkins, Lot 64.

According to the *History of Buffalo and Erie County, 1620-1884, Volume I, pg 410, Edited by H. Perry Smith, 1884, "Mr. Hopkins was appointed Captain by Governor George Clinton in 1803; Major by Governor Morgan Lewis in 1806; Lieutenant Colonel by Governor Tompkins in 1811; and Brigadier General by Governor Tompkins in 1811. He served as Brigadier General under Major General Hall during the War of 1812."* He and his command were on the left flank of the memorable American Sortie from Fort Erie on September 17, 1814. According to the Forest Lawn Archives he General and other members of his family were removed to this location from a burial ground in Eggertsville, New York on 8/23/1890.

SECTION H

Benjamin and Jane Bidwell, and eldest son John Lots 34,35,36,37.

He was a shipbuilder during the war. On October 9, 1812 during the operation of capturing the British schooners Detroit and Caledonia, he was very busy. It is mentioned, in *Benson Lossing's Pictorial Field Book of the War of 1812, footnote pg 387, 1869* that *"The first shot from the flying artillery crossed the river and instantly killed the brave Major William Howe Cuyler, of Ontario, General Hull's Aide De Camp, who had taken a deep interest in the expedition. He had been in the saddle all night, and had just left a warehouse where rigging was procured for warping in the Detroit and was guiding the vessels with a lantern in his hand when the fatal ball struck him and he fell dead. His body was carried by Capt.*

Benjamin Bidwell and others to the house of Nathaniel Sill. The death of the gallant and accomplished Cuyler was widely mourned." Also, pertaining to this incident, it is written in *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume XVII, 1913, Edited By Frank H. Severance, Sylvester J. Matthews Early Days In Buffalo, pgs 208-209, footnote,* that *"Major William Howe Cuyler, aide to Gen Hall commanding officer at Buffalo, at the sound of the firing he had mounted his horse and rode down the river with a lighted lantern, in his hand, as I was told, and when in range of their guns was shot through the body and his wrist was broken by grapeshot. Thus fell the accomplished gentleman, the brave and valiant officer."* Also, included on the pages of this reference is a poem entitled *"To the Memory of Maj. Cuyler"*

According to the *History of Buffalo and Erie County, 1620-1884, Edited by H. Perry Smith, 1884, Volume II, pg 57,* it states that *"It was the first shot of this cannonade that killed Major William Howe Cuyler, of Palmyra, as he was galloping with orders along the river road, before five o'clock in the morning."* Major Cuyler was first buried in the old Franklin Square Cemetery, to be mentioned shortly, and his remains were removed to his home town Palmyra, NY in 1851.

According to the *History of Buffalo and Erie County, 1620-1884, Edited By H. Perry Smith, 1884, Volume II, pg 57,* Mrs. Bidwell gives her account of activity on October 9, 1812: *"On the morning of October 9, 1812, Black Rock suffered a heavy cannonading by the British batteries on the Canadian side, during which some three hundred shots were fired. Mrs. Benjamin Bidwell has furnished some interesting reminiscences to the Historical Society in which she states that this cannonade drove them from their residence early in the morning. As she and her husband were hurrying to her sister's where there was a cellar in which they might secure a refuge, a cannonball passed so near them that a little girl she was leading was knocked down by the rush of the wind created by the ball. They then fled to the woods where they found several families. Mrs. Bidwell obtained some food, built a fire in the woods and was engaged in cooking breakfast by an improvised fire, when another cannon ball struck directly in the fire and scattered the breakfast in all directions. In a determination to finally get out of range, the family then made their way through the woods to Cold Spring, where Mrs. Bidwell cooked another breakfast which was eaten at four o'clock in the afternoon!"*

Mrs. Bidwell would also recall, *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society Volume IX, 1906, Papers related to the Burning of Buffalo, In the Midst of Alarms, pg 358,* that while escaping she wrote also that *"My child being sick, I was obliged to carry him in my arms."* This child was named John, also buried in this lot, and he was their first born. In a footnote, *pg 357,* found in this same reference it states of the Mrs. Bidwell that *"She had nine children, the eldest, John, being the child she carried in her arms when she fled from the British cannon balls."*

From this same reference, *pg 358,* Mrs. Bidwell would recall that *"Some two or three weeks after this a party of soldiers and sailors crossed the river, spiked the cannon, and burned the barracks just opposite our house. A house belonging to a Mr. Douglas they made their quarters, where they had their prisoners and their dead and wounded, and brought Lt. King to a house across the road from our house, where he remained until his death from wounds. While he was there, I did his cooking."* In relation to the death of Lt. King the following obituary appeared in the *Buffalo Gazette, February 23, 1813 "DIED At Black Rock on Sunday evening last, Lieut King of the British Royal Artillery. He was wounded on the night of the 28th of Nov. last, in the attack on the British at the Red House, and taken prisoner."*
Mrs. Bidwell mentions the account, from the above reference, *Volume IX, pgs 358-359,* when the British attacked Black Rock on July 11, 1813. She states that *"when the alarms was given that the redcoats had crossed the river and were marching on Buffalo, taking our men prisoners, as they went along, Colonel Bisshopp, commanding the expedition of redcoats, came to me wishing to enter a grocery owned by Mr. Williams, which had been left in my possession, under the plea of wishing to buy tea and tobacco. As there was none, he found a cask of goods that was to be sent to Fort George. Being anxious to use its content she took his sword and commenced ripping it open. While doing so the trumpet sounded and he left for the battlefield. Where the house built afterwards by General Porter now stands, Col. Bisshopp was shot from his horse. They took him to the beach, placed him in a boat to carry him across the river, and he died. At the time Col. Bisshopp was shot, Mr. Bidwell and Mr. Stannard, Section H, were engaged in making oars for the Government."*

During 1813, when the Americans occupied Fort Erie, according to *Buffalo Historical Society Publication, Volume IX, 1906 Papers Related to the Burning of Buffalo, by Parnell St John Sidway, pg 327, Parnell St John recounts the following "Father went down to the creek and calling on Mr. Benjamin Bidwell, a young man then living near that creek, engaged him as a ship carpenter to help in repairing the boat in the event of its being found. It was found deep in the mud and seriously broken, but the bottom was*

found to be sound. It was pried up, and with much difficulty got in shape to be repaired. Mr. Bidwell was the chief worker in making the necessary repairs, in which he was more or less assisted in various ways by others, among whom was my brother Elijah. By dint of severe effort the boat was by Saturday June 5, 1813 thought to be fit for service, and the next day Sunday, June 6, 1813 everything, as far as it could be, was in readiness for delivery." This appears to be the boat used on June 6, 1813, which was overturned and the two St Johns killed. The Bidwell home was destroyed during the British attack on December 30, 1813. After this they left heading east to find safety and not returning till August 1814.

Cold Springs Cemetery, Lot 91.

According to William Hodge Jr.'s work found in *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society Volume I, 1879, entitled Buffalo Cemeteries ;pgs 49-75,Cold Spring, pgs 52-54,* this cemetery was located at the Southwest corner of Delaware Ave and West Ferry St. Once Forest Lawn cemetery opened in 1850, the remains buried in this cemetery were removed to Forest Lawn. It appears this may be the location for some of those burials by the names on the stones. One marking in particular has initials "J.H." which maybe the grave belonging to Job Hoysington (see below) who was killed defending Buffalo on December 30, 1813. Of course, this is just speculation and wishful thinking on my part. Regardless, his story should be told as it is below.

Job Hoysington (Hoisington)? Lot 91.

The following are excerpts from *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society Volume XXVI, 1922, Recalling Pioneer Days, pgs 220-221,* William Hodge Papers *"Mr. Hoysington, gallant Job Hoynsington he has well been called, was an intelligent, resolute, patriotic man; and when news of the approach of the British towards Buffalo came, he took his musket and left his family early in the morning to meet the enemy. He went into the ranks with Captain Hull's Buffalonians, and they stood their ground well; but when the three thousand and odd of the new levies broke and fled precipitately, only a few hundred were left to face as many Indians, and over a thousand disciplined British regulars. For a brief period they contested the filed but seeing that they were flanked, they retreated along the Guideboard road, now North Street, eastward. But here Hoisington lingered, withdrew a little, stopped, and said I will have one more shot at them" and started to go back. His companions urged him to go on with them, but could not prevail on him to do so. This was the last that was known of him by his friends till in the following spring, some eight weeks later, his remains were found beside a log in the woods, and not far from the place where he had left his companions. A bullet had perforated, and a tomahawk had cleft his skull; while his scalp had been torn from his bleeding head, as a trophy of conquest. His faithful musket lay empty by his side, and no doubt his death was avenged ere it occurred. He was buried in the old Cold Spring cemetery, and in 1850, his remains were reinterred with those of nearly a hundred others buried there in Forest Lawn.Mr. Hoisington's family, a wife and six children, left their home on foot that cold morning, having no one to help them, and went along the Batavia road towards Williamsville. Two or three of the smaller children were picked up by some of our horsemen who were escaping, and carried away some fifteen or twenty miles, into the town of Clarence, and one of them many miles further into Genesee county, and left with strangers. It was several days before the mother learned where her children were."* Included in *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society Volume I, Buffalo Cemeteries, The Cold Spring Burying Ground, pg 53, by William Hodge 1879,* is the following regarding his burial and the removal of his remains from the Cold Spring cemetery in 1850: *"His remains were interred in this rural cemetery, and there they remained till 1850, when most of the bones of the nearly one hundred persons buried there, were exhumed, placed in boxes, and removed to a secluded place in Forest Lawn. Among these relics, the skull of the mighty marksman was at once recognized by injuries it had received, and many noticed it; but during the confusion incident to removal, someone surreptitiously carried off with this relic of Job Hoysington. It is doubtless in the possession of some curiosity monger of the city, but, "Who has it?" has often been asked in vain".*

Included also in *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume XXVI, 1922, Recalling Pioneer Days by William Hodge, pg 179,* William Hodge also mentions that Job Hoysington assisted his father in making the 300 or more coffins needed to bury the soldiers who had died while encamped at Flint Hill during the winter of 1812-13. It reads *"in 1813 times were lively; the tavern business continued good and Mr. Hodge was busily occupied in manufacturing mills. In the winter of 1812-13 he furnished many pine coffins, nearly three hundred in all, for soldiers who died while encamped on Flint Hill north of Conjockety Creek. At this time Mr. Job Hoisington worked for Mr. Hodge making mills and coffins and*

occupying the log house from which the latter had removed to the Brick Tavern." Mr. Hoysington was also one of the earliest members of the First Presbyterian congregation in 1812.
According to *Publication of the Buffalo Historical Society The War of 1812 on the Niagara Frontier By Louis L. Babcock, Volume XXIX, 1927, War Losses on the Niagara Frontier, the widow Hoysington, pg 257,* would receive $25.00 for her losses inflicted by the attack, distributed by the Committee of Safety and Relief of Canandaigua. Also, recorded in Revolutionary Pensioner of 1818, reprinted 1998, which included some pensioners of the War of 1812, the widow of Job Hoisington, who was killed on December 30, 1813 would receive a pension of $4.00 a month as compensation.

Also, published in *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume II, 1880, pgs 390-393,* is a Poem *"On the Death of Job Hoisington, who fell in the Battle of Black Rock, on the 30th of December, 1813 A Poem" by Elder A. Turner.*

According to the *"1812-1987 175th Anniversary First Presbyterian Church, Buffalo, New York, pg 5, "He was among those who took part in the engagement at Black Rock on the morning of July 11, 1813."*

According to *"Revolutionary Pensioners of 1818 By the U.S. War Department, Reprinted 1998, and which includes some pensioners from the War of 1812, on pg 235, indicates that the widow of Job ' Hoisington was to receive $4.00 a month, $48.00 annually as a result of her husbands death on December 30, 1813."*

Note: North Street today is what Guideboard Road was in 1813. On the north side of North street, at Linwood Avenue, there is a Historical marker recognizing the Guideboard road, which was used during the early 1800's to direct people coming from the east to Black Rock Ferry, which was located at its west end on the river. This was erected by the Buffalo Chapter DAR in 1932.

SECTION EYE

Maria St. John Fisk Lot 1, Orson Phelps Lot

Maria St. John was the oldest daughter of Gamaliel and Margaret St. John. She was born in 1791 in Danbury Connecticut. The following information is from *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society Volume IX, Edited by Frank H. Severance 1906; Recollection of the Burning of Buffalo by Mrs. Jonathan Sidway and The Story of the St. John House by Martha St. John Skinner, pgs 337-348.*
When the alarm gun was sounded on the December 30, 1813, the children of the St. John family were loaded in a wagon and evacuated. Maria, Sister Sarah and their mother Margaret stayed behind. The three and the hired man extinguished the fire set by the British to the large St. John House that day of the British attack. (See St John entry, Section 2)

The three St. John women along with the hired man removed the body of Mrs. Lovejoy from her home after she had been tragically killed on that first day, and put the fire out in the house. Later, these same women along with Ebenezer Walden, Section X, would put the body of Mrs. Lovejoy back in her house on the bed. (See Sarah Lovejoy Account, Section BB.)
Maria would marry Abraham Fisk and their daughter Calista Maria Fisk would marry Orson Phelps who owns this lot. Abraham is not buried in this lot and perhaps died in Illinois where they had resided. The lot register makes it appear that the marble cross monument in the rear is that for Maria St. John Fisk although to weathered to read.

SECTION H

Asa Stanard, Lot 25.

He was one of the earliest shipbuilders in this vicinity and who had a yard as early as 1810 at Conjockety Creek. The government would take this over in 1812. Benjamin Bidwell apprenticed under him. According to the *Buffalo Gazette, July 13, 1813, during the British attack on Black Rock on July 11, 1813, Capt. Asa Stannard was taken prisoner, along with others and taken across the river. In a follow up to this, the Buffalo Gazette, July 27, 1813 writes "Messrs. Sill, Stanard, Seelye and other citizens taken at BlackRock, were released on Saturday week."*

Also included in a *Journal, extracts found in the Courier, January 11, 1881, of a Mrs. Olivia Field,* wife of Pliny Field, proprietors of Fields Tavern Black Rock, is an account by Mrs. Field and Mr. Bidwell's family going to Mrs. Stanard's house for safety during a British cannonading, on Black Rock, during late 1812. She writes *"I recollect one night Mrs. Stanard sent for us to come there, together with*

Mr. Bidwell's family. She had fixed her cellar very comfortably by spreading boards around for a floor, and plenty of new straw in the bins of vegetables, with pillows, bed quilts, buffalo robes which made it very easy napping, if the balls did go through the upper part of the house. We had to be very cautious to have our windows very secured, that no light should be seen from outside."

SECTION J

Erastus Granger, Lot 1.

This family plot includes his father Abner, a Revolutionary War veteran and present at the Granger farm during the War. Abner would pass away on October 15, 1816 and Erastus would write a letter, dated October 16, 1816, to his sister Polly to include: "our father died yesterday being Tuesday the 15th. Inst, a little after 12 o'clock in the morning. His distress for four days before he died was great until a short time before he left us when he breathed his last without a struggle. For the last week before he died he appeared at times lost in his mind but the day before he went I think his reason was good to the last. We bury him today near where George and Warren lie. My health is gone can write no more. Your Brother Erastus." Erastus's wife is buried here also, as is his brother in law Oliver Forward. Erastus Granger, as a result of working for Thomas Jefferson Presidential campaign and his victory, Erastus was appointed Indian Agent at Buffalo Creek arriving in Buffalo in March 1804. Later he would also assume the duties as Buffalo's first Postmaster. From Capt. William Johnston, a former British interpreter for the Indian Department, in 1806 Erastus would purchase from him the property which now includes Forest Lawn Cemetery. From this initial purchase, Erastus would continue to buy land extending his estate from Main Street to the Niagara River an incredible 700 acres. His house would be near Main Street on the North side of the creek. Here there would be a saw mill and numerous buildings for supplies and equipment. Erastus became a great friend of Red Jacket and the Seneca Nation. He would share his harvest with them and the Senecas continued to hold their "councils among the oaks" on the Granger property. In 1810 -11 The Senecas would show their respect and friendship to Erastus by giving him a silver tomahawk with an exotic wood handle. This tomahawk has been on display at the Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society.

A Captain George Howard of the 25th Infantry, who had been sent to Buffalo by his commanding officer because of his poor health to rest, would write a letter back home. *George Howard Letter Book, Connecticut Historical Society, to Connecticut dated June 6, 1813, from "Buffaloe" mentioning his stay at Granger's: "we are now at the residence of Erastus Granger, Indian Agent on the frontier and who is from Suffield, Conn. He is cousin to my friend Gideon Granger; is very hospitable and made us welcome to his house until we were able to return to duty. The mansion of Mr. Granger stands near the center of his farm comprising about 700 acres all under excellent improvement and here we are in company with Red Jacket, Parrot Nose, Bill Johnson, Young King, Farmers Brother, Silver Heels, and many other chiefs of the Six Nations with their followers."*

As Indian Agent, when the War broke out Erastus worked very hard to keep the Senecas out of the affair. However, the British were doing just the opposite across the river by recruiting the Mohawks as their allies. During the campaign of 1813, while the Americans occupied Fort George, Erastus had met with General Dearborn concerning the need for the Senecas to enter the War as an ally to the Americans. Upon his return, he was informed that the British Indian Agent Col. Claus had put a price on his head and an attack on Black Rock was forthcoming. On July 10, 1813, fears of the attack were imminent and Granger requested the Senecas to come to his house for council. That night Farmer's Brother and his warriors appeared, set guard posts and planned for their response in the event of the attack. On July 11, 1813 the British would attack Black Rock and after early success would be beaten back by the Americans to include Granger with Farmers Brother and his warriors. According to *Flames Across the Border, 1813-1814 By Pierre Berton, 1981, pg 95, "By seven o'clock, Porter has 250 men formed up in some sort of order, to those ranks are added thirty Indians, mainly Senecas under two chiefs Farmer's Brother and Young King, this is the first time in the war that the Americans have employed Indians as combatants, the first time, in fact, that any large group of natives has wanted to fight on the side of the Long Knives."* This marked the first time during the war that Native Americans fought with Americans against the British. The Senecas would now take a more active role for the Americans to include occupying the woods around Fort George to include fighting the Mohawks when they appeared.

On December 30, 1813, when Black Rock was attacked by the British and their Indian allies, Granger and the Seneca Warriors responded, fought, but had to give up the fight when so many Americans

fled. Granger returned to his home where he remained in relative safety. His home was never attacked by the British or Indians during this fight. His home would serve as a temporary Post Office and some of the St. John children would seek safety there also. In *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume IX, 1906, pg 348, The Burning of Buffalo by Mrs. Jonathan Sidway, (Parnell St John) she writes "In a few days, Judge Granger said to my mother that his family were in Canandaigua and he was going there to stay the remainder of winter, that he was afraid to leave his house empty for fear it would be filled with soldiers; that he would leave his sisters Mrs. Remington, and her family and Mrs. Forward and her family, and he would give a room or two to my mother if she would move out there, and that would leave no room for the quartermaster to take. So we made ready to accept Judge Granger's kind offer and moved to his place out on the three mile creek."* Mrs. Remington, (unmarked graves) with members of her family is buried in this plot also.

Prior to the burning of Buffalo, On the 23rd or 24th of December, 1813 Granger was at the home, and Tavern of Major Frederick Miller in the company of General McClure and some of his aides. Gen. McClure was the commander at Fort George on the Canadian side in the village of what is now Niagara on the Lake, then known as Newark. The village was destroyed by fire on December 10, and the American army under McClure crossed over to the American side within a few days. In *History of Buffalo by William Ketchum, 1864, Volume II, Appendix, pgs 408-409*, it is written that Granger heard McClure publicly declare *"that he would take away the regulars, and was going away himself. Judge Granger asked him if he meant to take away the ammunition. Gen McClure answered that he did. Judge Granger observed, "for God's sake, don't do that, for we shall all be destroyed. Buffalo will be burned, and we shall have nothing to defend ourselves with. McClure responded I will stay and defend you, if the inhabitants will arrest and bind that damned rascal (Chapin) and bring him to me; if they will not do that, they may all be destroyed, and I don't care how soon."* Granger had understood that McClure and Chapin had quarreled violently about the burning of Newark and that he believed that animosity continued to exist up to the time of McClure's departure from Buffalo. Captain George Howard, mentioned earlier, would return to Buffaloe and write a letter dated *May 22. 1814, George Howard Letter Book, Connecticut Historical Society, which included the following: "I at length address you from the ruins of Buffaloe. When we arrived on the 15th inst, I have found many of my old friend's, citizens, soldiers and Indians and from all was greeted with a hearty welcome. My friend Granger God Bless him is alive and well. They have commenced rebuilding the place and in 5 years it will be much larger than ever."*

In July 1814 the Niagara Campaign, under the command of Maj. Gen. Jacob Brown would commence with the capture of Fort Erie and on July 5, 1814 the Battle of Chippawa would be fought. This would be a tremendous victory for the American Infantry against a strong British force. Granger and his Indians were there, with Red Jacket, Captain Pollard and other chiefs, on the west flank and playing a critical role in this victory. Granger would become Customs Inspector and Judge in the years to follow. His cousin Gideon, who also worked for the election of Jefferson was Postmaster General from 1801-13 during the administrations of Jefferson and Madison. His estate was in Canandaigua, NY and the house still stands as a historic site.

This family plot has 27 burials and was known to the family members as the "Turnip Patch". Erastus Granger's Indian Agency, was located on the west side of Main St between what is now Exchange and Seneca Sts. This was also used as a recruiting station when the War broke out. At the funeral services of Erastus Granger, he died on January 21, 1826, it is written in the *Launcelot Granger A Genealogical History, by James N. Granger 1893, that "At his funeral, just before the body was to be carried to the private burying ground, the door opened and Red Jacket, his friend, of many years, strode in. Taking his place at the head of the coffin this gifted son of the forest delivered in the Seneca tongue a last and fitting eulogy to the memory of his former agent. Those who heard and understood it, said it was worthy of the most beautiful speech of the equally gifted Logan."*

In 1813, Erastus Granger's Indian Agency was located on the East side of Cayuga St., now Pearl St, between the streets of Crow, second and third lots from Crow St. and Seneca Sts., then, today Exchange and Seneca Sts.

Shadrack Remington, Lot 1.

He was a relation to Erastus Granger and served as a private under him at Black Rock and Cold Spring from 1812-15. **UNMARKED GRAVE.**

Oliver Forward, Lot 1.

He was Erastus Granger's brother in law marrying his sister Sally. He served as Erastus's deputy postmaster, and succeeded Judge Granger as custom collector. He moved to Buffalo in about 1809. According to *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume I, pgs 373-390, 1879, Life and Public Services of Oliver Forward By Hon. James Sheldon, pg 376, "Before 1811, Judge Forward had built a small, one story wooden dwelling, on Pearl Street, in the rear of what is now No. 102, where he resided, and in a small addition thereto carried on the Post Office and the business of collector of customs, as the deputy of Judge Granger. He continued thus to act and live until the British and Indians, on the thirtieth of December, 1813, burned the place, and massacred the defenseless women and children. As soon as possible, in the year 1814, Judge Forward commenced the erection of a new dwelling on Pearl Street. It was a double two story brick house and was considered the most elegant residence in the place."*

Also, in regards to the murder of James Burba, see Roswell Hosford, Section B, after the arrest of the three soldiers suspected in the crime, James Peters, Benjamin Dart and Charles Thompson the Buffalo Gazette, August 16, 1814 reports that *"On application to the commanding officer they were delivered up to the civil authorities and taken before judge Forward who, after an examination committed them to jail for trial at the next court of oyer and terminer."*

According to *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society Volume IX, Edited by Frank Severance, 1906, Papers Related to the Burning of Buffalo, pg 322, by Mrs. Jonathan Sidway, "On October 3, 1812, Aurelia St. John was married to Asaph Bemis by Judge Oliver Forward."* He was instrumental with other citizens in securing the finances and work to be done to improve Buffalo Harbor which when completed was to become the western terminus of the Erie Canal. **UNMARKED GRAVE.**

(George Remington, Lot 1.

He is also buried in this lot and according to the Lot register, he died in the Autumn of 1812 at the age of eighteen years. He may have been another victim of that terrible epidemic which killed so many at that time. Unmarked Grave

SECTION H

Walter Norton, Lot 1.

According to the *newspaper Express, December 29, 1912, Helped Perry Win His Victory* Walter Norton was a Lake Captain who was piloting a commercial ship named The Erie when it was captured at the Battle of Mackinac Island July 18, 1812, and he was taken prisoner. According to *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume VIII, Edited by Frank Severance, 1905, Career of Daniel Dobbins, By Frank Severance, concerning Walter Norton's capture, it states, pg 304, "The next day after the surrender, July 18th, the sloop Erie, Capt. Walter Norton, came in sight, on her return trip from Chicago. In order to deceive Capt. Norton, the American flag was hoisted on the flagstaff. As soon as she got near the Island several armed bateaux were sent out and captured her."*

It was written by Elijah Efner, *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society Volume IV, 1896, The Adventures and Enterprises of Elijah D. Efner, pg 45,* dated January 21, 1865, who was taken prisoner at the Battle of Detroit, and along with Walter Norton walked from Cleveland, Ohio to Buffalo upon their being paroled.

SECTION N

Franklin Square Burial Lot, Lot 51.

There is a description of this cemetery prior to its present location found in *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume I, 1879, Buffalo Cemeteries By William Hodge pgs 49-75, pgs 51-52.* This burial ground was established about 1804 for the village by Capt. Samuel Pratt and Cyrenius Chapin. It was located on the block bordered today by Church, Delaware, Eagle and Franklin Sts, the site of the Old County Hall which still stands. During the War this was the main village cemetery in Buffalo. During the war many of the American Officers killed in action in Canada or locally were buried here. Mostly all Buffalo citizens who died during this time were also buried here. To include those killed during the burning of Buffalo. The removal of this Burial Plot to Forest Lawn was critical for Charles Clarke to win over the

people and have them accept his new rural burial ground. This would be done in 1851 with success. That year the remains were removed and brought to this location to include some of the tombstones which were erected there. The obelisk, erected in honor and memory of all those removed and still standing, was erected in 1852. The following is the mention of some of the military personnel, by no means all, buried in this plot and who were removed to this location in 1851. The last burial at the Franklin Square lot may very well have been Cyrenius Chapin who died in 1838.

According to *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society Volume XVI, the Picture Book of Earlier Buffalo, Edited by Frank Severance, 1912, pg 217,* the following is written; *"In October, 1836 a brick wall was built around it on the Eagle, Delaware and Church Sts. sides, at a cost of $2,000.00 paid for by popular subscription. At that time all the graves not marked by stones or monuments, were leveled, and graded even with the general surface. Many a resting place of early residents, and soldiers of the War of 1812, was thus lost for identification."* Later *"The Commercial Advertiser on Oct 27, 1836* noted with *regret that the leveling process spares comparatively few of the entire number in the yard and advocated marking any that might be known, and the adornment of the place with trees and shrubs".* We will never know everyone who was buried there or removed here.

Written in the *Courier July 24, 1926,* the following story was written in the pertaining to the Daughters of 1812 placing markers on veteran's graves at this location. The article read *"An impressive ritual was read by Mrs. John Miller Horton, regent, at the ceremonies of marking the graves of five soldiers of the War of 1812 by Buffalo Chapter, National Society, Daughters of 1812, yesterday afternoon at Forest Lawn cemetery. Bronze markers, with a star and anchor inside a circle already were in place with an American flag over each. The graves of three of the soldiers Major Lodowick Morgan, Samuel Thompson and Joseph Berry are in the plot over which stands a monument."* This is the monument at this location. Samuel Thompson is buried in grave number 26 in this lot; Major Morgan's name is inscribed and mentioned shortly; Joseph Berry is actually buried in the adjacent lot of Section CC and is mentioned later. Unfortunately, those markers placed that day are no longer in existence. Others, at some time were dedicated and still remain.

What would replace the cemetery ground, in 1876, would be the new City and County Building. Mentioned in the *Memorial of the City and County Hall Opening Ceremonies Buffalo, NY Edited and Published by F.F.Fargo Buffalo NY The Courier Company Printers 1876, pg 75, Addison P. Mason* is the dedication of the new Chamber of the City and County Hall, with a speech by **Asaph S. Bemis, buried Section 2,** who at the time was the President of the City Common Council. This was conducted on Monday March 13, 1876. He would state in his address the following about the beginning of this cemetery and a few of his ancestors to include a memory of his mother Aurelia St John Bemis, wife of Asaph Bemis, both buried Section I (Eye), still alive at that time: *"My aged mother who is till living in Buffalo, informs me her father Gamaliel St. John and Elias Ransom, Section A, organized a chopping bee and cleared this ground of its original timber growth, and laid it out as a place for the reception of the dead. Mr. St. john had buried his second son, Cyrus, here soon after coming to Buffalo and he and his eldest son, Elijah, were subsequently buried here in 1813, both having been drowned together in the Niagara River, by the upsetting of the boat in which they and a party of men were crossing from Black Rock to the Canada shore, in the interest of the American Army, and in the endeavor to open up and establish communication with a portion of the American forces, then holding possession of Fort Erie and other posts in the vicinity."*

Benson Lossing, author of the *Pictorial Field Book of the War of 1812, pgs 847-848, Published 1869,* would write the following about this lot when he visited Buffalo in August of 1860 for accounts by veterans of the War and the gravesites of those who had died and some of those buried here on this lot. He would write *"On the morning of August 16, 1860, I rode out with Captain Champlin, Stephen Champlin, Section F, to a beautiful depository of the dead in the suburb of Buffalo, called Forest Lawn Cemetery. The ground is pleasantly undulating, is much covered with trees of the primeval forest, and is really a delightful resort during the heats of summer for those who are not saddened by the sight of graves. There is an elevated open space, within ground one hundred feet square, slightly enclosed, stands a fine monument of marble, twenty two feet in height, which was erected by the corporate authorities of Buffalo in the autumn of 1852 in commemoration of several officers of the United States Army who were engaged in the War of 1812; also of a celebrated Indian chief, and to mark the spot where the remains of over one thousand persons, which were removed from the city, lie buried. Near the monument, is a tomb of brick, bearing a recumbent slab of marble over the grave of Captain Williams, who lost his life at Fort Erie. The inscription on it is historical and briefly biographical. Southward of this is a handsomely carved slab, lying on the ground, placed there in commemoration of a Connecticut soldier killed in the battle of Niagara.*

Northeasterly of the monument is another slab, over the grave of Captain Wattles; and south of it is another over the grave of Captain Dox."

Capt Alexander John Williams, Lot 51.

Capt. Williams commanded the artillery in the Northeast Bastion of Fort Erie on the night of August 14, 15 1814 during the British night attack. There was no Infantry in the Bastion at that time and this proved critical. After the cannons discharged and as the artillerymen were rolling the guns back to battery, the British led by Col. William Drummond, entered the Bastion by means of ladders from the ditch below, and drove Williams and his command down the stairs to the floor of the Fort. A port fire was burning exposing Williams's men and he sprang forward and cut it off saving his men. During this he would receive a musket ball in the stomach which would prove fatal. Lt. John Watmough, of Philadelphia, who was on the Northeast bastion, with Williams, on the night of the assault recalled in testimony included in the *Gaines Court Martial Proceedings,* that *"The enemy coming in at different points had succeeded in separating us from each other. Capt. Williams with the men attached to him was driven from the gorge of the bastion. The enemy repeatedly called out on charging to surrender, called us damn Yankees and even rascals. They called the men and repeated no quarter."*

The following are from references provided by the *Library at the USMA, West Point, NY.* Major J. Hindman, Capt. William' immediate commanding officer of Artillery, writes to William's father: *"Sir, it is most unpleasant duty to inform you that your son the late Captain Alexander Williams fell in the assault upon Fort Erie on the morning of the 15th. He was wounded in the belly by a musket ball and expired an hour after. Regretted by the whole Army, your son, on this as on all other occasions whilst under my command behaved with the utmost gallantry, and it will alleviate the distress of his dear relatives to know that he died nobly contending the confidence of his officers, and the admiration of the General of the Army. His effects are in Buffalo With great respect yours J. Hindman, Major."*
General Edmund P. Gaines, commanding at Fort Erie at the time of the assault, would write to Capt. Williams's father: *"He fell in action by a musket shot through the body nobly defending his bastion and battery. He was conveyed to my tent. Soon after the action I called to see him. He seemed to be in perfect senses, and in but little pain. He grasped my hand and in a most fervent manner, and expressed his congratulations on the victory we had obtained. He gave me a minute account of the assault on his bastion; that the enemy was thrice repulsed before they gained the bastion. He expired a short time after without a struggle or groan. The officers of his Corps particularly Lt. Cols. Hindman and Towson were very attentive to him, and after his death superintended his internment. I am dear sir, with great respect and esteem, your servant Edmund P. Gaines."*

Of Captain Williams's burial, it was written: *"he was buried in the graveyard of the Presbyterian Church in Buffalo, New York, with six or seven other officers who were killed in the action. And his body would have been removed to Philadelphia but upon taking time for this purpose, it was found that although it was well known he was one of those interred side by side, it was impossible to identify his individual grave. The ground on which he and his brother officers were laid was therefore enclosed with a handsome railing and a monument erected by his family."*

General Gaines would write to the President, either the President of the United States or the President of the Court Martial Inquiry, General Winfield Scott, *Trimble Papers Ohio Historical Society,* about the assault of the 15th, in particular the northeast bastion, Capt. Williams's command, and state: *"I was satisfied on the morning of the action and have ever since been satisfied, that if ten firm men with bayonets had been added to Captain Williams's command on the bastion the enemy would never have carried it." Gaines went on to say: "The artillery officers were desirous to defend the bastion without infantry. They could do no more. This Lamentable catastrophe, it is true, did proceed from an error partly attributable to the heroic spirit of the youthful Williams. I was desirous the grave of that excellent officer should preserve his memory from even a shadow of reproach. He fought and fell without reproach."* At the Court Martial proceedings of General Edmund Gaines, *Gaines Court Martial Proceedings,* a Major William Trimble commanding the 19th Infantry, and present at Fort Erie on the night of the assault, was asked *"Did you post any part of your Infantry in the Bastion under the command of Capt. Williams?" Answered by Trimble "No, I proposed to do it, but Capt. Williams objected to it and said he had supernumerary artillerists." He also stated "the Infantry was posted on the curtains which were considered the weakest part of the fort. The bastion was defended by artillery who were provided muskets and bayonets to resist an assault."*

Captain Williams was the 53rd graduate of the US Military Academy at West Point in 1811; his father Colonel Jonathan Williams was the first Superintendent of the Academy in 1802 and was a Congressman from Philadelphia, PA. Their home was the estate known as Mount Pleasant located on the Schuylkill River in Philadelphia. Alexander volunteered for duty on the Niagara Frontier and was present from the start of the Niagara Campaign. His grave marker which lies flat was once on top of a brick base. This was sketched by author Benson Lossing when he visited the site in the 1860's while working on his book entitled *"The Pictorial Field Book of the War of 1812, pg 848, 1869"* The inscription on this stone is sadly being weathered away. However, it reads *" Sacred to the memory of Captain Alexander John Williams First Regiment United States Artillery, son of General Jonathan and Marianne Williams, of the city of Philadelphia, who was killed in the night attack by the British at Fort Erie, August 14,15 1814. In the midst of the conflict, a lighted port fire in front of the enemy enabled them to direct their fire with great precision upon his company. He sprang forward, cut it off with his sword and fell mortally wounded by a musket ball. He sacrificed himself to save his men. Born October 10, 1790 Died August 15, 1814. Fratri Dilecto"* Captain Williams was also a great grandnephew of Benjamin Franklin.

Captain Joseph Kinney, Lot 51.

He was an officer with the 25th Regiment and was killed at the battle of Lundy's Lane, July 25, 1814 and his body was brought back to Buffalo for burial at Franklin Square. His grave marker reads: *"Memorial tribute to Joseph Kinney, of Norwich Connecticut, senior Captain in the Twenty-fifth Regiment, United States Army, shot through the breast at the battle of Bridgewater, July 25, 1814. To the friendship of George Coit, Esquire, his relatives are indebted for his burial at this place. Erected by a brother, July 1829."*

In a letter, *George Howard Letter Book, Connecticut Historical Society, written by a Captain George Howard of the 25th Regiment to his wife Sarah, dated Buffaloe July 25, 1814* he mentions the following: *"On the morning of the 27 my Lieut Seymour arrived with a boat load of dead and wounded. Among the former I found my dear friend and companion Captain Joseph Kinney, who received a musket ball through the breast near the close of the action which terminated his existence in about 40 minutes, He was a brave soldier a sincere friend and I believe a pure Christian. On the 27 July 1814 I buried my old friend Joseph Kinney 2d Captain 25th Inf and Capt Goodrich of the 11th Regt and several others in the burial place on the flats of Buffaloe a few friends assisted and we planted the spring of Capia upon the consecrated mound."*

Capt Howard's mention of Capt. Goodrich and others being buried at what was Franklin Square on the 27th of July 1814 may indicate that others who died in the actions of the War were buried there but no record exists. When they removed the remains from this cemetery in 1851 to Forest Lawn many unfortunates had no markers or the markers had weathered too badly for identification.

Capt. Simeon D. Wattles, Lot 51.

He was an officer with the 23rd Infantry when he was killed in action in the woods of Fort Erie on August 25, 1814. Brigadier General Edmund P. Gaines, commanding at Fort Erie would write the Secretary of War John Armstrong, *Official Letters of the Military and Naval Officers of the United States During the War With Great Britain in the Years of 1812, 13, 14, 15; By John Brannan, 1823, pgs 399-400,* about the day Capt. Wattles was killed. Headquarters, Fort Erie, Upper Canada, August 26, 1814, *"We keep up a smart cannonade. One of the enemy's pickets yesterday approached nearer to ours than usual. Major Brooke, officer of the day, added 100 men to our picket, attacked and drove them in with considerable loss; the Major brought in about 30 muskets. In this affair however, we have to lament the loss of another gallant officer, Captain Wattles of the 23rd. Our loss otherwise was inconsiderable."* Cat. R. Jones, Adjutant would add with a General Order on the 26th, *"Our loss, save the fall of Capt. Wattles, who was mortally wounded, and for whom we have to lament, was very inconsiderable. But the brave who fall in action will live in the hearts of our friends, and country."* The inscription on his stone reads: *"In memory of Captain Simeon D. Wattles of the United States Army, who was killed in a memorable sortie of Fort Erie on August 25, 1814 AE 33 years. As a Christian, he was pious and exemplary; as a soldier brave and magnanimous; as a citizen benevolent and sincere. Sweet is the memory of the brave and Blessed the Saint who falls with hope of God's eternal rest."*

Myndert M. Dox, Lot 51.

He was a Captain in the 13th Infantry. On his grave stone it is inscribed: *"The grave of Myndert M. Dox late Captain in the Thirteenth Regiment United States Army, son of Peter and Cathalnia Dox, of Albany. Born January 6, 1790. Died September 8, 1830, the forty first year of his age."* He was an Army recruiter in Geneva, NY in 1812; he was discharged on June 15, 1815 from the US Army. Bought lots in Buffalo in 1825; he was collector of customs in 1828.

Major Lodowick Morgan, Lot 51.

Major First Rifle Regiment; His name is on the side of the memorial Obelisk; There is no individual grave marker for Major Morgan. He was also known as *"Little Morgan"* because of his stature. He was the hero of the battle of Conjockety Creek on August 3, 1814 when he and his command repulsed a surprise attack, by British troops, on this side of the river, at the bridge which crossed over Conjockety Creek at Black Rock. This British attack, if successful, would have severed the supply and communication lines to Fort Erie; destroyed supplies, captured what boats there were and destroy munitions. General Drummond was to feint an attack on the American position at Fort Erie to prevent any troops being sent over to Buffalo to help. This was a huge victory for the Americans and Morgan was bestowed upon with great honors. An excerpt from *Major Morgan's report, Fort Erie, August 5th, 1814, to General Edmund Gaines, from Official Letters of the Military and Naval Officers of the United States during the War with Great Britain in the years 1812,13,14,15, By John Brannan, 1823, pgs 383-384, reads: "Having been stationed with the first regiment of Riflemen at Black Rock, on the evening of the 2nd, I observed the British army moving up the river on the opposite side and suspecting they might make a feint on fort Erie, with the intention of a real attack on the Buffalo side, I moved and took a position on the upper side of Conjocta Creek, and that night threw up a battery of some logs, which I found on the ground and had them torn away. After 2 o'clock the next morning my pickets from below gave me information of the landing of 9 boats full of troops half a mile below. I immediately got my men (240) in number to their quarters and patiently waited. At a quarter past four they advanced upon us, and commenced the attack, sending a party before to repair the bridge under the cover of their fire. When they had got at good rifle distance, I opened a heavy fire on them, which laid a number of them on the ground and compelled them to retire. They were continually reinforced and attempted to flank us up the creek but again they were repulsed. They appeared disposed to give up their object and retreated by throwing six boat loads of troops on Squaw Island. Their superior numbers enabled them to take their killed and wounded off the field, which we plainly saw, and observed they suffered severely. We found some of their dead thrown into the river and covered with logs and stones and some on the field. We also collected a number of muskets and accoutrements, with clothing that appeared to have been torn to bind their wounds. We took six prisoners who stated their object was to recapture General Riall with the other British prisoners and destroy the public stores deposited in Buffalo. The action continued about two and a half hours. I am happy to state they were completely foiled in their attempts."*

After this victory he could have probably retired from the action for a while but he chose not to and reported to Fort Erie within a few days and immediately entered the woods engaging the British and their Mohawk allies in deadly combat. On August 12, 1814 in those same woods Morgan would be killed and his body returned to Buffalo for burial at the Franklin Square Burial ground.
Included in *Official Letters of the Military and Naval Officers of the United States during the War with Great Britain in the Years 1812,13,14,15, collected and arranged by John Brannan, 1823, pg 389,* is the report of General Edmund P. Gaines to the Secretary of War of the action dated Headquarters Fort Erie August 13, 1814. An excerpt of that report is *"It has become my painful duty to announce to you the loss of that brave and excellent officer Major Morgan, of the 1st Rifle regiment. He fell at the head of his corps, in an affair with the enemy, on the 12th instant, after a display of gallantry worthy of the corps, and meeting the gratitude of his country. I had desired him to send a detachment of from 80 to 100 men to cut off a working party, supported by a guard, of the enemy's light troops, engaged in opening an avenue for a battery in our rear, having directed to have his corps ready for support, in case, the enemy should be reinforced. A warm conflict ensued, in which they were forced back, but discovering additional reinforcements, and receiving my order, to fall back, on the appearance of a large force, the major gave the signal with his bugle to retire; at this moment he received a ball in his head. He was brought from the field, together with his men who were killed and wounded."*

A Lieutenant Jonathan Kearsley was with Major Morgan when he fell on that day and wrote the following, *Kearsley Papers, Clements Library University of Michigan,* concerning his death. *"On the 12th of August Major L. Morgan was killed. A rifle or musket ball shot obliquely from the left, struck him on the*

left temple and passed through his head. He fell instantly dead leaving no more gallant soldier his survivor. Major Kearsley was at his side when he fell. Major Morgan's last words were Kearsley do not expose yourself the enemy have marked us individually and are firing at us. The next moment he fell. They were a few paces in the advance of the chain of riflemen and acting independently. It was uniform habit never to leave upon the field a rifleman when killed or wounded. Maj. Kearsley immediately ordered two men forward to take up the body of Maj. Morgan; these both were wounded, the enemy being only forty to sixty paces distant and two others were brought forward for the same purpose; of these one was killed and the other wounded. A fifth man was ordered to the task who with Maj. Kearsley succeeded in taking off the bodies of Morgan and the Private." After this incident, in late August, 1814, Lt. Kearsley would be severely wounded during an engagement in these same woods and would have to have a leg amputated. *Benson Lossing author of The Pictorial Fieldbook of the War of 1812, footnote, pg 848, 1869,* visited this site in August of 1860 and wrote of Morgan*: "Lodowick Morgan was a Native of Maryland, and entered the Army as a second lieutenant in the rifle corps in May, 1808. He was promoted to Captain in July, 1811 and to Major in January, 1814. He was a very efficient officer, and received the highest praise for his conduct in repelling the British invasion near Black Rock on the 3rd of August, 1814. He was killed in a skirmish before Fort Erie on the 12th of the same month."*

Farmer's Brother: Ho-Na-Ye-Was, Lot 51.

He was a loyal friend of the American army during the War of 1812 and Erastus Granger. It was said that the plan Lieut. Jesse Elliott USN adopted, to capture the British Schooners Caledonia and Detroit as they were anchored off of Fort Erie on October 9, 1812, was suggested to him by Farmer's Brother pointing out to Elliott their vulnerability, cargo and importance. From a newspaper article, *Helped Perry with his Victory, Buffalo Express December 29, 1912* it is written that *"On the suggestion of Farmer's Brother, that wise old Seneca, then 80 years old, Elliott made plans to capture them."* From the same reference it is written that: *"After this he was approached by Elliott and consulted with about building a shipyard at Conjockety to construct Perry's fleet. Farmers Brother along with James Rough, Daniel Dobbins, and James Sloan opposed such a project. This weighed heavily in Elliott's decision to move the ship building efforts to Erie, PA."* Written in *Perry's Victory Centenary 1916 compiled by George D. Emerson, pg 265,* it states *"The attention of Lt. Elliott was called to these two vessels by a venerable Seneca Indian, Farmer's Brother, then eighty years of age but in earlier life a stalwart war chief, who suggested that they would make valuable additions to the proposed fleet."*

He was active with Granger and the US Army from July 11, 1813 through the battle of Lundy's Lane July 25, 1814 and possibly even after. On July 11, 1813 he responded with Erastus Granger, with 30 warriors, to engage the invading British at Black Rock and drove them back to Canada. He was eighty some years of age at this time. On *January 10, 1852 the Commercial Advertiser* would write an article entitled Farmers Brother. It was written *"he possessed, in the highest degree, the confidence of General Porter, under whose command the Indians were enrolled and under whose eye his services were rendered. In a letter dated July 13, 1813 in which the General gave an account of the attack by the British on Black Rock, in repelling which the Indians were conspicuous, he says It is impossible to do justice to the gallantry of the Indians who were led on by their favorite old warrior," The Farmers Brother."* There was another article, 1879, source unreadable, which refers to Farmers Brother *"that faithful friend of our fathers, who waded out into the Niagara River in his eagerness to have another shot at the retreating British."* This incident most probable took place during this battle at Black Rock.

Another incident involving him is as follows written in *The History of Buffalo and Erie County, 1620-1884, Volume II, pg 71, by H. Perry Smith 1884: "On the 31st of July 1814, a Chippawa Indian who claimed to be a deserter came across the river and entered upon the village of Buffalo which still lay in ruins. He mingled with some Senecas and shared a bottle of whiskey with them. The Seneca's began to tell of the number of red coats and British Indians they had slain at the Battle of Chippawa. The visitor began to tell of how many Yankees and Yankee Indians he had killed mentioning among them the noted chief and friend of Farmers Brother "Twenty Canoes". Farmers Brother was at Landon's Tavern at the bedside of his friend Captain William Worth, an Aide to General Scott, who was recovering from his wounds suffered at the battle of Lundy's Lane. Fort Worth Texas is named after this particular Capt. Worth. When the Chippawa boasted about Killing Twenty Canoes the Seneca's denounced him as a spy. The conversation was now overheard by Farmers Brother who came out of the tavern and once informed of the facts grabbed his war club and struck the Chippawa down. The Chippawa was then challenged to accept his due punishment and returned to Farmers Brother who now told him that "Here are my rifle, my tomahawk, and*

my scalping knife; by which will you die?" The Chippawa chose the rifle. Farmers Brother then asked him where he wanted to get shot. The victim placed his hand over his heart and Farmers Brother then proceeded to shoot him there as the Chippawa was lying down beside the wall of burned building. Four young Senecas then removed the body to the edge of the woods some distance east of Main St."

The following letter, *Trimble Papers, Ohio Historical Society,* is more than likely related to this incident. The letter is dated Queenston Heights, July 16, 1814. The Americans are occupying the heights at this time as they have move northward after the Battle of Chippawa, July 5, 1814. General Peter B. Porter, commanding the volunteers, of General Jacob Brown's Left division, writes to Major Trimble at Buffalo: *"Dear Sir: I am informed by the Indian survivors that a British Indian who swam the Chippawa and came over to our army on the 8th is now in Buffaloe Indian Village making destructive and exciting alarms. They wish you to have him immediately arrested and put in irons. I wish for their gratification for the good of the service that you would aid in arresting and securing him. The Indians will assist taking him. Very respectfully your servant P.B.Porter B Genl Volunteers."* Well, obviously if this letter relates to the same, the Seneca's beat the correspondence and Trimble to the British Indian and dealt with him their way. Farmer's Brother died on March 2, 1815 and was buried with full military honors in the old Franklin Square lot. It was written to have been the largest funeral procession that had ever been witnessed in Buffalo up to that time. When the bodies were removed to Forest Lawn, in 1851, a tablet, with his initials formed with brass nails was found, but it disappeared during the moving process. However, another account, *Commercial Advertiser, January 10, 1852*, states that when the bodies were being removed, Farmer's Brother's coffin was identified by his initials being inscribed in brass nails within a figure of a heart on the lid of the coffin and this was well preserved. The article went on to state that *"His remains have already been removed to the new cemetery. An appropriate spot has been selected for their last resting place in the quiet shades of Forest Lawn, where a suitable monument will be erected to perpetuate his memory. We hope the solitude and repose of the place will never be disturbed by the encroachment of our city, nor its quiet walks intersected by paved streets or overshadowed by the inhabitations of the living."*

Mary Pratt Burt, daughter of Samuel and Esther Pratt, recollects details of the burial of Farmer's Brother in Franklin Square in *Sketch of the Life of Samuel Pratt, pg 47-48, by William Pryor Letchworth, Buffalo, New York, 1874,* stating *"and here was also buried, in March 1815, the distinguished war Chief, Farmer's Brother. Mrs. Burt well recollects the expressions of sympathy manifested by the people towards this steadfast friend of the white man and his burial attended with military honors in the village burying ground near the grave of her father. She states at the time of the removal of the remains of her family and others from Franklin Square, she saw excavated a part of his coffin lid, upon which was marked, in brass nails, the letters "F.B.". This was the last relic of that moccasin hero, the nobility of whose deeds and the brightness of whose fame had thrown had thrown luster upon the dusky annals of his race, and shed a saddened light through the dawning of our city's early time."*

The following article appeared in the *Commercial Advertiser and Journal, Buffalo, Friday Evening July 12, 1872: "The Grave of Farmer's Brother, the celebrated Seneca Chief, who died on the 2d of March, 1815 aged 86 years, and was buried with military honors in the Franklin Square ground, his remains being taken to Forest Lawn with others. When the disinterment took place, the coffin was recognized by the brass headed nails driven into the lid. The late Hon. Albert H. Tracy writing of Farmer's Brother said He was in every way a great man truly one of nature's noblemen, the front of Jove himself, An eye like Mars to threaten and command; A station like the heralded Mercury. None whoever saw him will fail to recollect his majestic mien and princely bearing; much less will they who have heard him in council, forget the power and deep toned melody of his voice, his natural and impressive gestures and then unaffected and commanding dignity of his manner unrivalled as a warrior, and only equaled by Red Jacket in eloquence. With such attributes, it is not surprising that his influence with his nation, though its form of government was essentially democratic, was controlling; nor is it less to his true glory that his open heartedness, his fidelity to truth, and his generous magnanimity, secured for him the admiration and esteem of every white person who had the honor of his acquaintance."*

Benson Lossing, author of The *Pictorial Field Book of the War of 1812, footnote, pg 848, 1869,* visited this site in August of 1860 and wrote the following of Farmers Brother: *"Ho-na-ye-wuo, or Farmer's Brother, was a conspicuous contemporary of Cornplanter and Red Jacket. He was esteemed as one of the noblest of his race. He was a warrior on principle and practice, spurning every art of civilized life. He was probably born about the year 1730. He was in the battle with Braddock in 1755, and during*

his whole life he was a foremost chief among the Senecas. He was eloquent in speech, and brave on the war path."

In *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume V, 1902, Edited by Frank Severance, Adventures and Recollections of A Pioneer Trader, By Captain James Sloan,* Section W, mentions the following of Farmer's Brother, *pgs 227-228, "Farmer's Brother deserves a passing notice. He was a splendid looking old chief, when I knew him and was said to be 80 years old in 1813. At this great age he bore and was seriously injured by the wind of a cannon ball in the rear of Fort George in 1813. He was prostrated by its force and a good deal of swelling took place. The Farmer was more social in his intercourse with the whites than Red Jacket. I recollect staying over night at Pomeroy's Buffalo Tavern late in the Fall of 1813, when the Farmer and Sally, his wife, passed the night there. He had come up to celebrate the anniversary of his friend, Tawway, who had escaped from a drunken mob to the house of the chief. The Farmer, although a gentle Indian, committed a rash act in killing an Indian spy from the Grand River. This took place between Swan and Seneca Sts, on Main Street. The Farmer had been threatened and insulted by the Indian. He wore a large and splendid medal said to have been presented to him by General Washington, with the remark that he was the noblest and best looking Indian that he had ever seen."* The mention of a medal given to Farmer's Brother by President Washington, indicates that he also may have been given such a medal, along with Red Jacket, and others, when they met the President in Philadelphia in 1792. Today his name is in place on the Obelisk as it was in 1852 when this memorial for all those re-interred was erected.

Previous to the war of 1812 Farmer's Brother activity included the Devil's Hole attack, September 14, 1763, on a British wagon convoy where most were killed. According to the *Commercial Advertiser, March 31, 1851,* it reads *"Farmer's Brother was the leader of the Senecas on that occasion and no doubt played a conspicuous part."* Also according to *History of Buffalo, Volume II By William Ketchum, 1864, pg 111, it states, in regard to campaigns including the Devil's Hole incident, that "It is not unlikely that he and Corn Planter were both engaged in that expedition, as well as those of cherry Valley and Wyoming at a later period."*

Samuel Tupper, Lot 51.

He was a judge and early settler of Buffalo. He was Niagara County Judge from 1812-1817. He was living in Buffalo at the time of the British attack on December 30, 1813. Written in *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society Volume I , pg 197, 1879 The Village of Buffalo During the War of 1812 by William Dorsheimer* is the following account: *"The British Indians had left the main column before it reached the village and swarming through the woods came into Main street near Tupper. A house which stood on the northwest corner of Tupper and Delaware streets was the first burned. A man named Dill lived there. Judge Tupper's house, on Main Street, near the corner of Tupper was the next. Opposite, above the residence of Mr. Andrew Rich, lived Samuel Helms, he was slain attempting to escape and his house burned."*

According to a reprinted story that appeared in the *Buffalo Evening News December 31, 1988,* the death of Samuel Helms, who lived across the street from Judge Tupper was reported as: *"Samuel Helms, the old German bachelor who dug the ditches that drained the morass south of the Terrace and who was this areas first market gardener, carrying lettuce on his head in a basket and peddling produce door to door, was slain while fleeing his upper flat across the street from the judge's house."* Samuel Helms was more than likely buried in Franklin Square with then other victims from the British attack.

Tupper Street in the City of Buffalo is named after Judge Samuel Tupper. He died in 1817 and was removed here with his wife, Percia, buried next to him

Parthenia Chapin, Lot 51.

She was the wife of Dr. Daniel Chapin early Buffalo physician. His home was at the Southwest corner of Jewett Ave and Main St. today. His estate was known as *"Willow Lawn"*. This location was the North Border of what was known as Flint Hill. The soldiers who died during the winter of 1812-13 who were encamped on the Hill were first buried on Chapin's property but the rocky soil was unsuitable for a proper burial and the remains were removed the following spring to what is now the Delaware Park Meadow. Mrs. Chapin would die in December of 1812 possibly a victim of the epidemic which was about to kill so many of those soldiers encamped at Flint Hill.

From the *Chapin genealogy, provided by the Bloomfield Historical Society, "Dr. Daniel came to Buffalo village in 1807 from Bloomfield, NY put up a log house on a farm on the outskirts of the village and*

established a large practice, visiting his patients on foot, with a dog and a gun, often traveling the trails as far as Niagara Falls. Dr. Chapin died in 1821 at sixty, his death due to exposure in visiting a patient." He may have been buried at Franklin Square, but there is no record of that. Their son William W. Chapin is buried in Section D.

Smith H. Salisbury and wife Lot 51.

Also buried here among the hundreds is Smith H. Salisbury, the brother of Hezekiah A. Salisbury, who together founded the Buffalo Gazette in 1811. Hezekiah's cenotaph is in Section F with a narrative about the newspaper and Hezekiah's experiences during the war. From "*Municipality of Buffalo, New York A History 1720-1923 Editor In Chief Henry Wayland Hill, Volume II, 1923, Deceased Distinguished Citizens, pg 894,* it is written that after Hezekiah and Smith founded the Buffalo Gazette in October of 1811, *"The family came to Buffalo shortly afterwards, but in February 1813, on account of the war troubles on the frontier, the family returned to Canandaigua. Smith and Hezekiah remained in Buffalo. While the British were applying the torch to the infant settlement the Salisbury Gazette was safely surveying and reporting the scene from the heights of Harris Hill east of Williamsville."*
Smith H. Salisbury and his wife Nancy Hyde Salisbury were the parents of Guy Salisbury who was born on Christmas morning, 1811 in Canandaigua, NY. Later in Guy's life, from the above reference, he would become known as the "The Charles Lamb of Buffalo." Smith Salisbury died in 1832 and at sometime he and his wive were removed from an unknown location to Section D Lot 30, where according to the Forest Lawn archives, they were once again removed to this location, the City Lot, in August of 1868.
UNMARKED GRAVE.

Capt. James Rough, Lot 51.

According to the newspaper *Express, December 29, 1912,* an article entitled *Helped Perry With His Victory,* he was a Lake Captain who was piloting the commercial ship The Mary when it was captured at the Battle of Mackinac Island July 18, 1812 and he was taken prisoner and then pardoned shortly after. He was one of four men at Black Rock that Lieutenant Jesse Elliott conferred with regarding the location of a ship yard, to build Perry's Fleet, at Conjockety Creek. He along with the other three voiced their disapproval regarding this because of the British positions on the other side of the River and the current. Elliott would respect their decisions and move the shipbuilding process to Erie, PA. However, there would still be the transforming of recently captured vessels to gunboats conducted at the shipyard on Conjockety. Captain Rough died on December 4, 1828. His marker is a removal from the old Black Rock Burying Ground. It was located on what is North Street today, then Guideboard Road, which was the northern border of the city till 1853 when Black Rock was incorporated into the City. It was located where Kleinhans Music Hall is now and also the Circle. According to *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume I, 1879 Buffalo Cemeteries By William Hodge Jr., The Black Rock Burying Ground, pgs 56-57, "Capt. Rough's remains were removed by our honored townsman, John T. Lacy, April 26th, 1869, to the lot in Forest Lawn, where those from the old burying ground of Franklin Square were placed."* The same reference, *pg 57,* also states that *"The exact time when burials began in this Black Rock burying ground, on North Street, is not now certainly known. By some it is thought that burials began there soon after the War of 1812-15; others as late as 1826But there were some burials there as early as 1820, or soon after."*

From the same reference, *pg 56,* is the following description of Capt. Rough *"Capt. Rough was described as noble hearted, a captain who early sailed on our lakes."* When Black Rock was attacked and burned on December 30.1813, General Peter B. Porter's home also fell victim. This house was located on the corner of Auburn and Niagara. When Black Rock rebuilt after the War, Porter would build a new residence on the northwest corner of Niagara and Ferry Sts., 1192 Niagara St, and this was the home that became so famous. On the location of his old residence, that which was destroyed, at the southwest corner of Niagara and Auburn, Captain James Rough had constructed a home, on the old Porter house foundation, which later would be owned by Rev. John Robie. This would become known as the Rough, Robie House and have an address of 1266 Niagara St.

Written in *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society Volume I, 1879 Buffalo Cemeteries, pgs 49-75, by William Hodge, the Black Rock Burying Ground, pgs 56-57,* the following is included in the

description of the Black Rock Cemetery. A fellow countryman of his Major Donald Frazer had the following inscription cut on his stone: *"EPITAPH Here lies the body of Capt. James Rough A Son of Auld Scotia, who died Dec 4th, 1828 aged 60. A Highland man's son placed this stone in Remembrance of a Friend. Here, moored beneath this willow tree, Lies Honor, Worth and Integrity. More I might add, but tis enough: T'was centered alt in Honest Rough. With such as he wherever he be, May I be saved or damned." It is so noted in a footnote on the same page that "the last two lines of this are from Burn's epitaph on Gavin Hamilton."*

This Major Donald Frazer was an officer of the War of 1812 with the 13th Regiment U.S. Army, an Aid to General McClure, and Black Rock Ferry owner later. Prior to the Burning of Buffalo he also expressed his desire for the destruction of Buffalo but maybe for another reason. The following is found in *"The History of Buffalo" by William Ketchum, Volume II, pg 409, 1864, Appendix: Nehemiah Seely, a citizen, and in the company of Capt. Frazer, at Miller's House on the 22nd or 23rd day of December, 1813 in which he swears that Frazer said "that if Buffalo should be burned, he had no doubts the inhabitants would be remunerated by government; that he believed that it would be an advantage to the country to have it burned; it would make hundreds of soldiers; it would stimulate me to enlist; to prosecute the war with more vigor; he said if he a house in Buffalo , he should be glad to see a fire brand in it in two minutes."*

Major Donald Frazer would be very active as an Aide to General Peter B. Porter during the Niagara Campaign of 1814. Major Frazier was one of the lead officers cutting the trail through the woods surrounding Fort Erie that would be used to attack the British artillery positions on September 17, 1814 the day of the American Sortie. In *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Volume I, 1879, Sketch of the Life of Orlando Allen, by William C. Bryant, the addenda, pg 363,* includes a letter from Major Frazier to a Mr. Salisbury concerning a tribute to Red Jacket. He signs the *letter "Black Wolf".* This is a translation of the Indian name bestowed upon Major Frazier by the Indians. He married the daughter of John Lacy who is buried in Section 5 of this Cemetery. Major Frazer appears to have been buried in the North Street Cemetery and then removed to Lakeside Cemetery when that cemetery was closed.

About Franklin Square it was written also that, from *Centennial History of Erie County, By Crisfield Johnson, pgs 263-264, Buffalo, NY 1876,* which describes the collection of the dead bodies after the British attack on Buffalo: *"A day or two after the second raid the people assembled and picked up the dead bodies, and brought them to Reese's black smith shop. The number is variously stated, but the most careful account makes it forty two killed, besides some who were not found. At the shop they were laid in rows, a ghastly display, all being frozen stiff, and most of them stripped, tomahawked and scalped. After those belonging in the vicinity had been taken away by their friends, the rest were deposited in a single large grave, in the old burying ground on Franklin Square, covered only with boards, so they could be easily examined and taken away."*

Another account about the dead, and those buried is written in *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society Volume IX, 1906 Papers Related to the Burning of Buffalo, pgs 346-348, Story of the St. John House by Martha St. John Skinner.* It reads *"In a few days we returned and all our neighbors came into town and the mother's from Bloomfield came out to Buffalo to identify their sons, who had been killed and buried in a mound in the grave ground. They had been buried without coffins. My mother gave the Bloomfield people refreshments and they warmed by the fire and seemed to be sadly afflicted."*

Franklin Square was also reported to be the location of the British troops on that day, December 30, 1813, as Col. Cyrennius Chapin was about to approach them with a white flag for surrender terms. *In Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume I, 1879, Buffalo During the War of 1812, By William Dorsheimer, pg 197,* it *states "Chapin started forward towards the enemy, who were by this time in the woods, upon what is now called Franklin Square."*

It is possible that one of the areas earliest black settlers, Robert Franklin who was killed by the British, defending his home on Niagara Street where Jersey is today may have been one of these unfortunates buried at Franklin Square. He was listed in the *January 25, 1814 edition of the Buffalo Gazette* as being killed. Mr. Franklin also played a part when the British attacked Black Rock on July 11, 1813. According to an account by *James Aigin, Buffalo Historical Society Publication, Volume IX, Edited by Frank Severance, 1906, pg 371* which states that *"At the time General Peter B. Porter was awakened early in the morning by the noise made by some British officers who were ordering his housekeeper to get their breakfast. The General jumped out of the second story window and put for Buffalo. On Niagara Street lived a Negro by the name of Franklin. From him General Porter got and old gray horse to ride. He passed onto Buffalo to rally the troops." This same account would later state that a detachment of dragoons would*

arrive at Franklin's. "These men went to where Franklin lived. There the commanding officer concluded it was not prudent to attack the enemy with so small of force so they turned back for Buffalo."
The following excerpt is from *Sketch of the Life of Samuel F. Pratt, pg 85, By William P. Letchworth, Buffalo, New York, 1874,* as told by Pascal P. Pratt, son of Samuel Sr, and brother of Samuel Jr,. *"Into the blacksmith shop of David Reese, after the retirement of the foe, were gathered the frozen dead found in the streets to the number of about thirty, presenting a ghastly spectacle. An old negro named Frankie stood in a corner scalped, a tomahawk remaining in his skull. He was an inveterate stutter and contorted his mouth into a grotesque expression of agonizing effort while speaking. Pascal P. Pratt, as he looked upon poor Frankie, said it seemed to him as though he had died with a stuttered sentence frozen in his mouth."* Could this have been poor Robert Franklin? Or was this another African American who defended his family and the Village from the attackers that day?

In describing those killed on that day, written in *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume I, 1879, Buffalo During the War of 1812, pg 199, By William Dorsheimer*, included is the following: *"The last was Robert Franklin, an aged Negro, very black, who lived in a log hut on Niagara opposite Jersey. His lifeless body was found near his house, and long remained unburied."*
The Buffalo Commercial February 4, 1921 printed the following story told by a Mrs. Elizabeth Clark, an African American, residing in Fort Erie, Ontario. Her age was 115 years old and she was present at the burning of Buffalo. *"Mrs. Clark was born in Virginia in 1806. She came north with her father and mother when she was a very little girl. Her father, a cook, was one of the defenders of Buffalo in 1812 and lost his life in the battle that ended in the destruction of the then frontier village. Oh yes I can remember the British she said. I watched them come into the town. There were Indians too, and a lot of white men who wore shawls and moccasins. I stood in a chair at the window of our home, which was down near the foot of Main Street. I called to my mother to watch them. She saw me standing at the window and she grabbed me and took me under her arm to another room in the house where she hid me. This may be the death of your father she said and it was. My father was killed in the battle for the town."*
You wonder how many other African Americans may have been killed or suffered as the result of this attack. Unfortunately Mrs. Clark's fathers name is unknown. However, he also was more than likely buried at Franklin Square with the others from that battle. An interesting note was found in *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, The War of 1812 on the Niagara Frontier By Louis Babcock; Volume XXIX, 1927 War Losses on the Niagara Frontier pg. 262.* It mentions that the Committee of Safety and Relief of Canandaigua on March 9, 1814 appropriated the sum of $20.00 to *"Leonard Baker's wife (a black) of Buffalo."* Was this the father of Mrs. Clark or another African American who may have given his life in defense of Buffalo and may have been buried at Franklin Square and removed here?

Also, in regards to this lot and military burials from the War of 1812, I may be speculating, however, I feel strongly concerning the following. On September 4, 1814, in the woods that surrounded Fort Erie and the location for daily fighting since the beginning of August, 1814, two officers of the American army were killed. One was Lt. Roosevelt and the other Lieut. Col. Joseph Willcocks. The latter was actually a Canadian, Irish by birth in Ireland, who had formed a group of Canadian volunteers and who had sworn their allegiance to America and its efforts during this war. Col Willcocks, also to be known as "King Joe", was one of the most wanted men in Canada, if not the most wanted during 1813-14. When the war began he was totally loyal to the British causes and actually fought against the Americans at the battle of Queenston on October 12, 1812. He was a printer, publisher, journalist, politician and army officer and was doing very well. However, after the death of General Brock, his ideals were in conflict of the new British leaders. In July 1813 he formed a corps of volunteers, seventy four at its first muster, and deserted to the American side. They would be known as *"disaffected."* From this time on he and his corps caused havoc death and destruction throughout Canada. When Newark, now Niagara on the Lake, was burned, on December 10, 1813, many feel that it was Willcocks and is corps that did the actual burning and destruction of the properties rather than the Americans who obviously did not object other than Cyrenius Chapin. As time went on he became less popular with the American officers that he served with. On this day, September 4, 1814, in the woods of Fort Erie he would meet his end. In a report, Fort Erie, September 5, 1814 from the *Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society Library, Peter A. Porter Collection, #A442, by a Major Matteson*, Major Commanding, he would write *"Of Col. Willcocks I take pleasure in announcing that in every movement he behaved worthy the character of the hero and patriot, on defence of our Country's rights until he fell with the laurels of glory." From this same report it was written that "Colonel Willcocks received a mortal wound by a shot through the right breast when he together with all those injured were bore off."* A final note of this included *"You will have the goodness to show this to Major*

Markel and other officers of the same corps as it may be a gratification to them on account of the present sentiments of the NY volunteers towards the late Colonel Willcocks."

According to *While Washington Burned, The Battle of Fort Erie 1814, By Joseph Whitehorne, 1992, pg 76,* the feeling among the British when word was received that Willcocks was dead was *"News of the turncoat Willcock's death was a tonic to the besiegers, as they contended with another day of nearly continuous rain."*

A NY militia officer, Colonel Hugh Dobbins kept a diary and memo of his activities throughout the War and they are located in the *Dobbins Papers, Geneva New York Historical Society.* Included in his notes is the following. He was not at Fort Erie on the day Willcocks was killed. He was at Buffalo since being ordered there on September 2, 1814. He makes a short entry on *September 4, 1814 that reads: "Col Willcocks and Lt Roosevelt buried."* This indicated to me that the bodies of these two officers were returned to Buffalo for burials. This was the practice, if possible, for officers and as the previous entries indicate, Franklin Square was the ground of honor where they would rest with their fellow officers. Unfortunately it is speculation on my part; however, I do feel strongly this is King Joe Willcock's resting place.

I also feel strongly, although there is no paper trail as the above, that splendid officer Lieutenant Patrick McDonough, who was killed on the night of August 14, 15, 1814 during the night assault on Fort Erie rests here also. His position was the northeast bastion where Colonel William Drummond and his corps had gained entry driving the American artillerists from that position onto the floor of the fort. With him there is a legend that with his last breath, with his last act of this world, he lighted a train of gunpowder which would ignite explosives and blow up the northeast bastion which at that time was filled with British troops and prevent a British victory. Again, following the practice of recovering officers remains they would be transported to Buffalo for proper burial with military honors and what better place of honor than where so many other fellow officers were buried than Franklin Square. Captain Alexander Williams, his commanding officer, killed the same night was brought here. Why not McDonough?
In *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume V, 1902, Edited By Frank Severance, Papers Relating to the War of 1812 on the Niagara Frontier, No. IV, there is the writing entitled "A Hero of Fort Erie" pgs 63-93, which includes not only the story of Lt. Patrick McDonough's death and actions on that night but also correspondences of him.*

SECTION F

Benjamin Hodge Sr. Lots 11,12,13,14.

He was a Revolutionary War Veteran; Father of William Hodge Sr.; the following account is from *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume XXVI, 1922, Recalling Pioneer Days, The William Hodge Papers, pgs 224-227, The Burning of Buffalo and Incidents.*
"Another of the prisoners taken at this time, in the village, was Mr. David Eddy, a Quaker from the town of Hamburg. He had come down from home to see the burnt village, not expecting to meet the enemy, and was seized. The prisoners were collected together on the Black Rock Road, now Niagara Street, at a short distance from Main and were about being marched down to that village, when they were halted and asked by the commanding officer if any of them knew of any public property near by, that could be destroyed. Mr. Eddy answered, and said that he did. They enquired, where? And he directed them to William Hodge's brick house on the hill near Cold Spring. Eight horsemen were then detailed to go and destroy the property, and Eddy was ordered to mount behind one of them and show them the way. Their orders were that if they met any opposition they should shoot Eddy, and return. He conducted them to the house, and as they came in sight of it, they were discovered by Mr. Benjamin Hodge Sr., and Mr. Keep, who were in the house at the timer and who ran out, and down the hill before the men came up. The leader gave chase after them, and called on them to stop; Mr. Hodge did so, and the horseman passed by him and followed Mr. Keep, who continued running for about eighty rods. When the officer neared him he raised his carbine or short musket and shot him, and he fell opposite to what is now the south entrance gate of Spring Abbey, 1500 Main Street. The officer then wheeled about and returned to the house with Mr. Hodge. He then ordered him to show the way to the cellar, and to take with him an axe that stood in a corner. Seeing that the cellar was filled with merchandise he stepped back to the head of the stairs and commanded his men to fire the house. He then ordered Mr. Hodge to knock open several boxes of candles, kegs of nails, casks of liquor, etc, hoping to find specie. He was assured by Mr. Hodge there was no specie or public property

there; that it was all private property. The truth was the large cellar was full of goods belonging to the merchants of the village who had put them in store there for safety, in case of an attack on Buffalo. After knocking the heads of several casks of liquor, they came to one of Jamaica rum, and the officer emptied his canteen of whiskey and filled it from the cask. About this time his men called out from above that that the Yankees were coming and he stepped very quickly up the outer cellar stairs, telling Mr. Hodge to follow him. But he thought he would not be in too great of hurry, and lagged behind. Without repeating his order, or even looking back, the officer went out and mounted his horse, and with the rest of his men rode off back to the burnt village, with their pilot David Eddy. He was taken over the river with the rest of the prisoners, and after a few days was sent back. As to Mr. Eddy, he bore Mr. Hodge no ill-will. But things were not so friendly and pleasant between Mr. Eddy and Mrs. Hodge. The Yankees who were coming when Mr. Hodge's cellar was under investigation by the British officer were a company of our horsemen under the command of Colonel Totman, and were stationed for the day at Atkins Tavern on Buffalo Plains. When the company of horsemen were passing my father's house, they were somewhat scattered along the road. Colonel Totman was some distance ahead of his company, and he rode on past the house and up to the side of a British horseman, who, as he came up shot him down. He fell from his horse on the west side of the road, in the ditch just opposite where Riley Street enters Main. It was thought he mistook the British horseman for one of our own. His horse ran back to our barn, the British horseman after it. Our men coming up he turned and retreated with the rest of his company. The body of Colonel Totman was carried on the back of a horse, out to Harris Hill Tavern where I remember seeing it that evening, lying on the barroom table."

Benjamin Hodge Jr.; Lots 11,12,13,14.

He was the son of Benjamin Hodge Sr. and was taken prisoner on the same day as the incident mentioned above, as he came to view the ruins of Buffalo. In *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society Volume XXVI, 1922, Recalling Pioneer Days, The William Hodge Papers, pg 223, William Hodge Jr. writes: "My uncle Benjamin Hodge Jr., was of the numbers who went on that day to see the ruins. He too, was taken prisoner, and kept as such a year and a half. He was taken first to Montreal and then to Quebec. While thus a prisoner his feet were frozen, and he was crippled in consequence for several years."*

Major Frederick Miller, Lots 82,83,84.

He was a Revolutionary War Veteran; operated the Black Rock Ferry from 1806-1812; became proprietor of the Cold Springs Tavern, in 1812 which would become also known as Miller's Tavern. This Tavern was a popular stop for travelers and was located on what is Main St. and Ferry St today. Many accounts give the location of this tavern on the southeast corner of Main and Ferry Sts. There was a large spring nearby so it was so named. This spring was a natural beauty by all accounts. Of this location, it was written in the *Times March 10, 1907 "That some historical event is connected with the spring is apparent from the finding of cannon balls and bayonets by persons digging for foundations of their buildings near the spring. It is surmised that persons were fired upon during war times when going to the spring. Many residents would favor resurrecting the spring and making it a beautiful spot in the course of beautifying the city."* The Native Americans would enjoy their stop here as they would travel also.
Frederick Miller served during the war as a Major of Artillery and he commanded the artillery near the Black Rock ferry which was located on the Niagara River directly across from the Canadian shore. According to *The History of Buffalo By William Ketchum, Volume II, pg 236, 1864,* his men gave him the nickname of *"Major Squat"* for the following reason: *"The British had a battery directly opposite and the two were hotly engaged in bombarding each other. Major Miller stood upon the breastwork directing the firing, and with a glass watching the effect of their shots upon the enemy's works, and at the flash of their guns, would order his men to squat behind their breastworks. The Major noticed that some of his men, in the excitement did not promptly obey the order to "squat" and he would then reiterate the order with emphasis saying "squat damn you or I'll squat you."*

There was an incident at the tavern on January 1, 1814, the same day of the incident at Hodge's Brick Tavern. Written in *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume XXVI, 1922, Recalling Pioneer Days; pg 227, The William Hodge Papers "three British Indians entered the back door of Miller's*

tavern at Cold Spring. They found in the house a Mrs. Martin, an inmate of the Major's family. They were about to set fire to the house, when Mrs. Martin delayed them by furnishing them food, as they seemed to be somewhat hungry. She had been informed that a company of horsemen would soon be there, and sought to keep the Indians till their arrival. They did come galloping up while the Indians were eating, who, discovering the troopers left the house where they had entered it, but in much greater hurry and ran across the fields into the woods."

After the British attacked Black Rock on July 11, 1813, and were repulsed, it was written in *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Picture Book of Earlier Buffalo, Volume XVI, 1912, Edited by Frank Severance, Early Black Rock Facts, pg 259,* that Capt. Saunders, A British officer wounded in the retreat to the boats, *"was first treated at General Porter's House on Niagara Street and then brought to Major Miller's at Cold Spring where he was attended to and back to health by Dr. Trowbridge."*
The Tavern *was also a popular stop for the US Army soldiers. Frederick Miller would give the following statement, History of Buffalo, by William Ketchum Volume II, pg 410, 1864, Appendix* about an incident prior to the burning of Buffalo: *"On the 21st or22nd day of December, 1813 General George McClure was at Miller's house and would say that he hoped to God the village of Buffalo would be burned by the British; that he would do nothing to save it and he would march the regular troops to Batavia which he did on the 22nd."* General McClure was the American commander at Fort George at what is now Niagara on the Lake. That village was destroyed by fire on December 10, 1813 while McClure was in charge.
According to *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume XXVI, 1922, Recalling Pioneer Days, pg 194, By William Hodge Jr.,* there would be the following recorded incident: *"Who that has ever traveled the old Batavia Road since the year 1808, has not a recollection of the Cold Spring Tavern? In the War of 1812-15, this was quite a central point on this frontier, and many of the officers of our army made it their stopping point. A duel with pistols, between two of our army officers, was fought there during that time. Its scene was the foot of the old Cold Spring farm lot, at the little run near the corner of Ferry and Jefferson streets. The officers names, I am sorry to say, I do not recollect. I remember, however, that one of them was a surgeon. The Surgeon, an expert duelist and a bully, saw fit to challenge the other though he was inexperienced, at least in the use of pistols, for the purpose and with the intention of getting him out of the way. The challenged man expected to be killed however it was the surgeon who fell and died immediately and the one challenged, though wounded through the breast, survived and lived many years afterward."*
The same incident is recorded with more detail by Jacob Porter Norton: On November 21, 1814, near the Cold Spring, today where Jefferson and Ferry Sts meet, there was a duel between two American officers conducted and recorded by an American officer by the name Jacob Porter Norton. Norton would write in his diary, *Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society Niagara Frontier, Summer, 1965, Volume 12, Number 2, Jacob Porter Norton, A Yankee on the Niagara Frontier in 1814, pg 53, that "Nov 21, a duel was fought today between Capt. Paxton 12th Infantry and Dr. Dade 10th Infantry; the latter was killed on the spot and it is thought that Capt. Paxon will not recover from his wound."*

One more account from *Niagara Frontier A Narrative and Documentary History,1931, By Merton Wilner, Volume I, pg 217, "The scene was at the foot of the Cold Spring lot, near the present corner of Ferry and Jefferson streets. One officer is represented as a bully and an experienced duelist, while the other lacked that advantage. It was arranged that the two men should stand side by side, each holding with his left hand a corner of the same handkerchief. At the word they were to wheel and fire. The experienced duelist was killed. The other received a wound from which he recovered."*
A side note regarding duels, according to *Niagara Frontier A Narrative and Documentary History, Volume I, 1931, By Merton Wilner, pg 217* is this addition; *"The Gazette reported a duel on May 20, 1813, between Dr. James C. Bronaugh and Maj. John Stanard, two regular officers. Stanard was shot in the thigh."*

The tavern would be mentioned in the following letter, *Trimble Papers, Ohio Historical Society,* pertaining to the movement of British prisoners. The letter is addressed to Major Trimble and written, while the Army was training in Buffalo before the US Army, under the command of Major General Jacob Brown, entered Canada. *"Headquarters Buffaloe, 15th June 1814. Sir You will conduct the British Officers prisoners of war now under your charge through the Indian village to Miller's tavern two miles east of this place in such manner as totally to avoid sight of this encampment. The bearer of this will be sufficiently acquainted with the road to conduct you. Upon your arrival at Miller's you will report to Maj General Jacob Brown and wait further instructions By order L Austin Aide De Camp."* Does this indicate the location of the Army's encampment while it prepared for the invasion of Canada? Frederick Miller would move to Williamsville in 1817 and died in 1836.

SECTION K

Samuel Wilkeson and Sarah St John Wilkeson, Lot 1.

Samuel was involved in shipbuilding and the transportation of salt when he moved from Washington County, PA to Portland, NY, Chautauqua County, sometime around 1810.
The following account is from *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume V, pgs 135-145, edited by Frank Severance, 1902 Historical Writings of Judge Samuel Wilkeson, pg 139, "The American Army under General Harrison, lay at Maumee, delayed in its advance to invade Canada by the failure of a contractor to provide transportation by boats. In this emergency Wilkeson was sent for and appealed to by the commander in chief, to give his army transportation and he consented. Quickly gathering a force of axmen and carpenters, he hastened to the Grand River in Northern Ohio and attacked the timber growing on its banks, sawed, hewed, rived, framed and planked, and in a wonderfully short time, completed the transports and delivered them to Maumee within the condition of his contract as to time. His family was at Portland in Chautauqua County. The British army was in march across the Niagara River from the Canadian side. Armed with a rifle he hurried to Buffalo with his regiment to get into the expected fight to check or defeat the foe. The battle was fought north of Black Rock and near the Conjacta Creek. Our militia was overmatched by Wellington's veterans inn numbers as well as effectiveness. We were beaten. Buffalo was captured and burned. Wilkeson walked home to Chautauqua to his family, with the comforting knowledge that the rifle he carried on his shoulder had been deadly to not a few of the enemy."*
On December 30, 1813 when Buffalo was attacked he responded with Volunteers from Chautauqua County to help defend and drive the British out. It was written in *The History of Buffalo and Erie County 1620-1884, Volume II, pg 66, Edited by H. Perry Smith, 1884,* that *"while engaged at the battle of Black Rock he was loading and discharging his musket as rapidly as possible, when he noticed a small quiet man nearby who he said was firing faster than he was. The stranger cast he eyes around and exclaimed "Why we are all alone" Wilkinson at this time also realized they were only two of a few remaining. The others had fled to the woods. This stranger introduced himself to Wilkinson as Ebenezer Walden, a lawyer and the two would escape and continue their friendship forever."*

It was noted, in *The History of Buffalo and Erie County, Volume II, footnote pg 72, 1620-1884, Edited By H. Perry Smith, 1884*, that a few days after the British attack Samuel Wilkinson, in the company of James Sloan, Section W, *"came down the lake shore a few days after the village was burned, and the only living thing they say between Pratt's ferry on the creek and Cold Spring, was a cat roaming disconsolate among the charred ruins."*

Wilkinson would move to Buffalo after the War and become a leading citizen. He would build his home on Niagara Square, where City Hall is today. He was a leader in the financing, supervising and building the harbor at Buffalo which would later accommodate the Erie Canal and make Buffalo the western terminus of the canal and not Black Rock. He would marry, as his second wife, Sarah St. John one of St. John daughters. According to *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume IX, 1906, Edited by Frank Severance, Papers Related to the Burning of Buffalo, Story of the St John House, pg 345, By Martha St John Skinner,* mother, Maria and Sarah, remained at the house and were able to extinguish the fire to their large house on December 30, 1813 where they had stayed behind to protect their property. It was written, from the above reference, that *"This was on the first morning and at the same time that they set fire to the large house; but Sarah drew the water and Maria and mother and the old man poured it on the fire and put it out."* She also assisted in removing the body of Mrs. Lovejoy, who was killed that day, from her burning house across the street. According to the reference mentioned above, *pg 343,: "In the course of the day the house of Mrs. Lovejoy was set on fire and mother and sisters Maria and Sarah, with the hired man, old Mr. Pettingill, and others, went to the house and took the body of Mrs. Lovejoy out and laid it on a pile of boards by the side of the fence, so it would not be consumed by the fire. Then they went into the house and saw it did not burn fast, so they made an attempt to put out the fire and did succeed; and when night was coming on they thought they would carry the body in again, and as the old man was very weak and feeble they needed more help. Sarah started up the street and saw Mr. Walden, Section X. So Sister Sarah started on a run to ask him to come and assist. He came and with mother Maria and Sarah lifted her and carried her in and laid her on the cords of a bedstead."* Sarah would die in 1836 and Samuel would have to get special permission from the City council to have her buried in the old Franklin Square cemetery which was granted. According to *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society Volume I, 1879,*

Buffalo Cemeteries by William Hodge, Read before the Society on February 4, 1879, pg 52, it states for the Franklin Square Burying Ground that "The last was in 1836, being that of the wife of Hon. Samuel Wilkinson, a daughter of Gamaliel St John and a special permit was granted for this purpose." At some time her remains were removed to this location.

Sheldon Thompson, Lot 4.

He was a shipbuilder and had a forwarding business that moved to Lewiston, NY in 1810. He became a business partner with Jacob Townsend and Alvin Bronson and two of the schooners built by them would be used as gunboats during the war. Ironically, one of these commissioned in June, 1811 was called Catherine named after his future wife Catherine Barton the 17 year old daughter of Benjamin Barton., see James L. Barton, section 3, for additional information Benjamin Barton.
When the British, with their Indian allies, attacked Lewiston on the same night they captured Fort Niagara, December 19, 1813, Thompson had already moved as much of his partners merchandise eastward as possible without being captured or merchandise destroyed. However, the following account published in *History of Buffalo and Erie County 1620-1884, Volume II, Biographical, pg 100, Edited by H.P. Smith, 1884* gives a description of a close call for Sheldon Thompson: *"On the approach of the enemy to Lewiston, Thompson after looking after the goods as far as practicable, drove his sleigh to his house; hurriedly put in it a mattress and a big iron kettle; turned into it part of a barrel of crackers, and part of a barrel of pork, put in his family and started for Geneva. Had he been a few minutes later they all would have been killed. A short time after this, February 20, 1814, at Pittsford, NY another daughter was born to him."* This daughter was named Sally Ann Thompson, who would later become the wife of Henry K. Smith, the future mayor of Buffalo, NY in 1851. However, Sally regretfully would not enjoy the "first lady of the city" status, for she would pass away on April 15, 1839. Henry K. Smith and Sally are also buried in this same lot.

According to *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, The War of 1812 on the Niagara Frontier, Volume XXIX, 1927, By Louis Babcock, War Losses on the Niagara Frontier, pg 268,* information compiled by the Committee on Safety and Relief for compensation of those that suffered losses from the British attacks along the Niagara during December of 1813, *"Townsend and Bronson And Co. reported "Merchants; storehouse, farm house, and barn burnt, not in want"* meaning they were not in need of compensation of their losses. In 1816 or 17 they would create a branch of their business at Black Rock. Sheldon Thompson was the first elected Mayor of the City of Buffalo. From 1832-1839 the Mayor was appointed by the City Council. In 1840 it marked the first time the citizens of the city were allowed to vote for a candidate and Thompson won.

The schooner *Catherine* mentioned above, and being built in Black Rock also has the following history according to *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume VII, Edited by Frank Severance, 1904, footnote pg. 321, "In 1810 the schooner Catherine was built by S. Thompson and others at Black Rock; she was bought by the government and was in the battle of Lake Erie under the name of the Somers."* The Somers was also part of Commodore Perry's fleet during the Battle of Lake Erie on September 10, 1813 and played the following part. According to *The Perry's Victory Centenary, 1913, pg 65, Compiled by George D. Emerson, 1916,* the Somers was fitted with *"two long 32 pounders"* when it left Black Rock on June 14, 1813 with other ships headed towards Erie.

Also, according to *Flames Across the Border, 1813-1814, By Pierre Berton, 1981, pg 166,* that during the battle of Lake Erie, after Perry leaves the Lawrence and boards the Niagara, commanded by Lt. Jesse Elliott, Perry inquires *"Why are the gunboats so far behind? I'll bring them up says Elliott, Do so sir, Perry responds. Elliott takes the rowboat and in a remarkable display of personal bravery rows off through heavy fire to call the smaller craft forward into the battle by speaking trumpet. He himself takes command of the Somers, where he indulges in a curious display of temperament. A cannonball whizzes across the deck, causing Elliott to duck. A gun captain laughs, in a fury, Elliott strikes him across the face with his trumpet and then proceeds to arrest the sailing master, whom he believes to be drunk. But he gets the gunboats quickly into action and pours a heavy fire on the British ships."*

Another historical note about the Somers is that on the evening of August 12, 1814, the Somers was one of three American gunboats in use patrolling Lake Erie and the Niagara River in support of the American garrison at Fort Erie against the entrenched British army which was laying siege to the American position at the Fort. The three gunboats were the Porcupine, Somers, and Ohio. On this night Capt. Dobbs of the British Royal would launch a surprise attack on the three gunboats capturing the Somers and Ohio while the Porcupine escaped. The following account is taken from the *Welland County Historical Society,*

Papers and Records, Volume V, pgs 106-107, Louis Blake Duff, Editor, Welland, Canada, Published by the Society, 1938: "Captain Dobbs proposed an attack upon them by boats at night. To approach them by ascending the river against the current was clearly out of the question. Boats were accordingly brought over the Niagara portage around the Falls and up the river as far as Miller's Creek. Thence they were conveyed eight miles overland by the Ridge Road to the bay east of Point Abino. It is stated that the seamen carried their captain's gig the whole distance on their shoulders by relays to save it from any damage. Five bateaux were conveyed in wagons. Seventy seamen and marines of the Royal Navy with the proper complement of officers were embarked in these six boats on the evening of August 12 and rowed down the lake, keeping well over toward the southern shore and finally approached the schooners very quietly from the direction of Buffalo Creek. When hailed by the sentry on the Somers, they answered "Provision boats" and rowed rapidly alongside. The cables were cut and they climbed on board, cutlass and pistol in hand. This division of boats was commanded by Captain Dobbs himself and the Somers was taken without loss. The other boats, commanded by Lieut. Radcliffe, rowed alongside the Ohio in like manner but the alarm had been given and an obstinate resistance was made. Radcliffe and one seaman were killed and four other seamen were wounded in a hand to hand struggle which took place before that ship was taken. One of her crew was killed, and her captain, sailing master and six seamen were wounded. The third schooner made sail and got away, while the two prizes drifted down the river. The number of prisoners exactly equaled the party commanded by Dobbs. The Historians of the U. S. Navy, Cooper, and Roosevelt have added their tribute of approval to that of others writing from an admittedly British point of view. "Cooper termed it a sudden and handsome affair. Roosevelt commented on its "daring and boldness." The British historian James, remarks "that the exploit of Capt. Dobbs and his brave followers deserve every commendation."

SECTION R

Charles Townsend, Lot 2.

According to *The History of Buffalo and Erie County 1620-1884, Volume II, Biographical, pgs 108-109,1884, Edited By H. Perry Smith,* it was written that *"In 1811 Charles Townsend, in the company with the man who was to be his life long business associate, George Coit, came to Buffalo, where they embarked in the drug business, which they continued until 1817."* In 1814 they first engaged in vessel building and transportation business, which they continued during Mr. Townsend's life. In 1813 Mr. Townsend was made a Judge of Niagara County which office he held until about 1826, discharging its duties with intelligence and impartiality. Their store was located at the Southwest corner of Van Staphorst and Swan Sts. Today known as Main and Swan Sts. Coit and Townsend left Buffalo the night before the British attacked and burned the Village. They returned after, rebuilt their store and continued their business. Mr. Townsend was one of four designated by the Committee of Safety and Relief of Canandaigua to distribute funds collected to those suffering losses from the British attack.

SECTION X

Ebenezer Walden and his wife Susanna Marvin Walden Lot 25.

Ebenezer Walden arrived in Buffalo in 1806 and by some accounts was the first lawyer in the Village. For many years he was the only licensed attorney west of Batavia. He married Susanna Marvin in 1812. He accumulated a fortune in properties.

During the War he was active on the night of October 9, 1812, when he commanded a boat of volunteers which drove a company of British soldiers off of the damaged British Schooner Detroit as it laid disabled on the west side of Squaw Island enabling Col. Winfield Scott to defend her. *From Benson Lossing's Pictorial Filed Book of the War of 1812, 1869, footnote, pg 387,* Doctor Josiah Trowbridge gave the following statement to Lossing concerning the civilians who landed on Squaw Island that night: *"These were principally members of an independent volunteer company of Buffalo, of which the late Ebenezer Walden was commander. They first brought their six pounder to bear upon the enemy at the point where the Black Rock Ice House stood in 1860, Doctor Trowbridge acting as a gunner. When the regular gunner came they crossed over to Squaw Island."*

During the burning of Buffalo on December 30, 1813 he responded with the volunteers to defend the Village. According to *Centennial History of Erie County, By Crisfield Johnson 1876, pg 257,* on this day: *"Both Chapin and Walden were taken prisoners and the former was detained in Canada over a year. Mr. Walden, who was less noted, managed to escape from his captors, as if nothing was the matter, and still remained about the village."*

Also on this day, regarding the death of Mrs. Lovejoy the following was written in *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume IX, Papers Relating to the Burning of Buffalo, 1906, Story of the St. John House, pg 343, By Martha St John Skinner "In the course of the day the house of Mrs. Lovejoy was set on fire and mother and sisters Maria and Sarah, with the hired man, and others, went to the house and took the body of Mrs. Lovejoy out and laid it on a pile of boards by the side of the fence, so that it would not be consumed by the fire. Then they went into the house and saw it did not burn fast, so they made an attempt to put out the fire and did succeed and when night was coming on they thought they would carry the body on again and they needed more help. They looked up the street and saw Mr. Walden. So Sister Sarah started on a run to ask him to come and assist. He came, and with mother, Maria and Sarah lifted her and carried her in and laid her on the cords of a bedstead."*

The following are excerpts of an article written in the *Buffalo Times, March 16, 1919* about the Walden's. *"With her stalwart young husband she remained on the frontier during the War of 1812 and afforded essential aid during those dark days in our history. During the War of 1812 he remained on the frontier and was present at the burning of Buffalo by the British, when, by his exertions and courage he aided essentially in saving the lives of several citizens and their families, and it was he who carried the lifeless body of Mrs. Henry Lovejoy, massacred on her own threshold the first day of the attack, into her pillaged house and laid it on her bed, where it was burnt the next day. When her house was set on fire, Judge Walden's own home on Main Street, corner of Eagle, shared the common fate of the village the second day."*

His house, when Buffalo was burned was located at the Northeast corner of Van Staphorst and Eagle Sts., today Main and Eagle Sts. After the War he would build a new home on the South west corner of Main and Edward Sts., today, set back towards Franklin St., known then as Tuscarora Street. He was one of four appointed by the Committee of Safety and Relief of Canandaigua to distribute funds collected to those suffering losses as a result of the British attack.

He was appointed a Judge; He was Mayor of Buffalo in 1838. Some of his land holdings were sold later for such purposes as the Buffalo Barracks in the 1830's, between North and Allen Sts. in Buffalo; Delaware North Cemetery, also in the 1830's on the Southwest corner of North St. and Delaware Ave. His son in law was General Albert J. Myer, UB Medical School graduate; founder of the National Weather Bureau and the Signal Corps; Fort Myer in Virginia is named after him.

Samuel F. Pratt, Lot 24.

He was the son of Samuel and Sophia Pratt. He was seven years old when Buffalo was attacked by the British on December 30, 1813. It was written in *Sketch of The Life of Samuel F. Pratt, pg 79, By William Pryor Letchworth, Buffalo, New York, 1874,* that *"The Pratt families with little Samuel F. who was then seven years old, pursued their way to Griffin's Mills, where they stopped the first night. They staid in a log house and slept on the floor. The next night they stopped at a log tavern, where they were again obliged to sleep on the floor, and were surrounded with wounded soldiers, who kept up a pitiful moaning during the night."*

According to *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume IX, 1906, Edited By Frank Severance, Papers Relating to the Burning of Buffalo, Story of the St John House, pg 340, By Martha St John Skinner, Martha St John would relate that "Mr. Samuel F. Pratt told me, one time when I met him at a party at Mrs. Sidway's that she, his mother, had her bread ready to bake, and finding she could not bake it in Buffalo she put it in a pillowcase and carried it to Willink to bake."* Samuel F. Pratt would become the industrialist and establish the Pratt and Letchworth business.

Ebenezer Johnson, Dr., Lots 26,27,38,39. (CENOTAPH)

Dr. Ebenezer Johnson arrived in Buffalo in 1810 to establish his practice. In 1811 he married Sally Johnson in Cherry Valley, NY. They established a home on the Southwest corner of Chippawa and Van Staphorst which is Chippawa and Main Sts today. From *Municipality of Buffalo A History, Volume II, by Henry Wayland Hill, Deceased Distinguished Citizens, pg 892, 1922* it states *"During the War of 1812,*

Dr. Johnson served as an assistant surgeon of volunteers, his army grading being a surgeon's mate. He was absent from his family on this duty at the time the village was destroyed. After the war, he returned and became even more prominent in the affairs of the region." Sally would pass away in 1834. She would first be buried on the family property in Johnson Park; later removed to North Street Cemetery and then to Lakeside Cemetery in Hamburg, NY. This marker is a cenotaph to both of them. Eighteen months later Ebenezer would marry Lucy E. Lord the sister of Rev. John Lord. Dr. Ebenezer Johnson was appointed the first mayor of Buffalo in 1832; he would serve again in 1834.

Although the location of the burial of Ebenezer Johnson is known, at the time of the removals from North Street Cemetery there was some belief he may have been buried there. However the following article, from the *Express May 12, 1901* tells of the removals of the family members, from North Street, and where they were buried prior: *"H.D. Farwell one of the oldest of Buffalo's undertakers said to a reporter for the Express that he was tolerably certain that Dr. Johnson's grave is somewhere in the south. He died there Mr. Farwell said and his body was never brought North, so far as I know and I am reasonably certain that if it had been I should have known something about it, as I was intimate with the family and removed the family vault from their private burying ground to the North Street Cemetery. I made the frame for the tablet which is erected at the vault and I am sure that I would have known of any plans for the reinternment of the head of the family. The later Mrs. Lilly Lord Tifft assured me not long before she died, that the body of Mr. Johnson was still in a southern cemetery, just where, I do not remember and it was her intentions to have it brought here and placed beside the other members of the family. Unfortunately, she died before her design was carried out."*

In an article of the *Express May 19, 1901,* it is written that *"Dr. Johnson owned considerable property at one time in that section known as Johnson's Park. He built the stone cottage so long occupied by the Buffalo Seminary and some distance back of the house was the private burying ground whence I removed the bodies in 1844. Subsequently Mrs. Lord consulted with me about removing the Johnson vault to the Lord Lot in Forest Lawn where there was ample room for both families. This however, went the way of many other good intentions, and there is no one living in Buffalo now who has any direct family interest in the removal of the remains and there proper reinternment elsewhere."*

Also on *May 19, 1901 written in the Express* was the following finally confirming the right Ebenezer Johnson buried at North Street. *"Capt. Lewis Johnson was in the city yesterday making arrangements for the removal of the bodies of the Johnson's now in the North Street Cemetery. He called on undertaker R. J. Conover and made arrangements to have the bodies removed to Lakeside Cemetery. He said the body that first was supposed to be that of Ebenezer Johnson is undoubtedly that of his great grandfather Capt. Ebenezer Johnson a soldier of the American Revolution. I know positively said the Lewiston man, that my father and his brother, Buffalo's first mayor died and were buried in Tellico Plain, TN."*

On September 23, 1849, Dr. Ebenezer Johnson would pass away in Tellico Plains, TN. and would be buried there.

Mary Lord, Lots 26,27,38,39.

She was the daughter of Ebenezer and Sally Johnson as mentioned above. At the time of the burning of Buffalo, December 30, 1813, as her father was away the following was written in *Niagara Frontier, A Narrative and Documentary History, By Merton M. Wilner Volume I, pg 250, 1931, "Mrs. Ebenezer Johnson waited till her house was actually on fire. Then she hitched a horse and sled and with her baby, the future Mrs. John C. Lord, reached Williamsville."* He and his family returned to Buffalo in April of 1814. Mary was approximately one and a half year old at the time of the attack.

Orange Brace, Lot 43 sub lot 5.

It was written in *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society Volume I, 1879 Black Rock Ferry, By Charles D. Norton, pg 100,* that Orange Brace *"In 1812, became the lessee of the ferry." It is found in the lot register of Forest Lawn that Orange Brace died on December 11, 1812, and was a soldier War of 1812. The circumstances of his death are unknown. However, citing the time of his reported death, he also could have been a victim of the terrible epidemic that terrified the Niagara Frontier at that time. According to Buffalo Bombarded, Recollections of 100 Years Ago, Buffalo Express November 24, 1912, the following was written about the early cannon bombardments, during the months of October and November, 1812 of Black Rock: "The house of Orange Brace, who kept the Ferry was struck by several*

balls; the warehouses there proved to be good targets for the British. There were also warehouses near the foot of Ferry Street and these, being nearer to the British guns suffered most."

Lester Brace, Lot 43 sub lot 5.

He was the son of Orange Brace and was involved in the Black Rock Ferry also. According to *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society Volume I, 1879, The Black Rock Ferry, by Charles D. Norton, pg 103, "In 1813, Lester and Gamaliel St. John thought that something could be done with the Ferry. They bought boats and resumed the business of carriers between Canada and the Black Rock."* According to the same reference above, pgs *105-106*, the following occurred while Lester Brace was involved with the ferry: *"There was another incident which is worthy of preservation. One day there came to the ferry a number of villagers from Buffalo who desired to cross to Canada. Doctor Josiah Trowbridge and Mr. Bemis were of the company. It was a cold December day, and Mr. Brace was averse to crossing; for he was unwell, and there had been rumors which, if true, rendered a visit to the other side somewhat hazardous. Dr. Trowbridge was quite urgent, however, for his business on the Canada shore was impelled by the same motive which induced Leander to swim the Hellesport. Mr. Brace saw the white flag flying on the Canada side and after some hesitation, consented to allow his brother in law, Arden Merrill to take his place in the boat, and ferry the travelers to the other shore. As the ferry boat approached the Canada landing, two or three sleighs filled with men were observed to be approaching from below; but the matter excited neither alarm nor suspicion. The passengers had hardly landed, when they were seized as prisoners, with the exception of Dr. Trowbridge and Mr. Pomeroy, who escaped to the woods. The British party then fired into the boat already out in the river. Merrill was killed; his body, stripped of boots and watch, and afterward recovered under a flag of truce. One of the passengers was never afterward heard of, another was taken prisoner, and subsequently released at Halifax. Dr. Trowbridge and his companions found their way to Baxter's, six miles above the ferry, and there seized upon a boat against the remonstrance of the proprietor, who was not disposed to aid their escape, and got safely back to Buffalo Creek. This was a most unprovoked and unjustifiable outrage; not the only one perpetrated by the enemy during the war. The people on the ferry boat had trusted to the white flag flying at the ferry landing; and even if they had come over without that protection, they were unarmed, and might have been made prisoners without loss of life."* Another account of this incident was reported in the *Buffalo Gazette, December 14, 1813 "On Sunday last, Mr. R. M. Pomeroy and son, Dr. Trowbridge and lady, crossed at Black Rock into Canada, on a visit; the party had been on shore a short time, and the ferry boat was about returning, with a number of militia, who came up from Fort George, when they were hailed by a party of British Militia and Indians in sleighs, but the boat paying no attention, they fired into the boat and killed Mr. Merrill one of the ferrymen; when the boat returned to the shore the men in the boat were taken prisoner; among the prisoners were Richard Pomeroy and Luke Draper, of this village. The party was commanded by two British regular officers. Mr. Pomeroy and Dr. Trowbridge obtained a boat above Fort Erie and crossed over in safety. Mrs. Trowbridge was permitted by the officer to return."* According to *Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society Library, Misc manuscripts MS. A00-65, a letter reads that "Ms. Orpha Brace, sister of Lester, daughter of Orange, married Arden Merrill on September 13, 1813."* This is barely three months before his death.

In another incident Lester Brace would be with Mr. St. John and his son on that tragic crossing, on June 6, 1813, as Mr. St John and Mr. Brace attempted to navigate the river to transport goods, and soldiers to Fort Erie where the American army had assumed command. The ferry boat would capsize which would result in the deaths of Mr. St John and his son. Mr. Brace would survive. It was written of his ordeal while in the water, with Mr. St John, according *to Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume I, 1879, the Old Black Rock Ferry, by Charles D. Norton, pgs 104-105, "Mr. St John went down, but rose again and spoke encouraging words to him, putting his hand on his shoulder at the same time, but suddenly sank and did not rise again. His son a fine, athletic young man, had nearly reached shallow water when he disappeared; and Mr. Brace grasped a board which floated near him, by means of which his life was saved."* Lester Brace's grave is **unmarked.**

Note: The Brace Family burial plot was removed from the High Street Cemetery to this location on August 25, 1870. However, Orpha's grave is not present. Arden Merrill was more than likely buried in the Franklin Square burial ground.

An example of an inventory submitted for compensation as a result of lost property when the British attacked on December 30, 1813 was submitted by Lester Brace to the Committee of Safety and Relief of Canandaigua and is as follows and is found in *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society,*

Volume XXIX, 1927, By Louis L. Babcock, The War of 1812 on the Niagara Frontier, War Losses on the Niagara Frontier, pgs 293-294, "One house 28x20, 2 stories high, lathed and not plastered one stacks of chimneys 4 fire places log kitchen adjoining 20x40 one story high oven stacked of stone chimneys two fireplaces and a large oven improved as a tavern. $800.00 One barn 20x30 feet with common boards $250.00 30 barrels Flax in the sheaf $3.75 ten bushels of potatoes $5.00 Total $1,058.75". Mr. Brace resided in Black Rock, the ferry point, at the time of the attack.

George Coit, Lot 11.

According to the *History of Buffalo and Erie County 1620-1884, Volume II, Biographical, pg 16, 1884, Edited By H. Perry Smith,* George Coit was a partner of Charles Townsend, Section R, mentioned above. They came here in 1811 and started a drug business on what was considered virgin soil. It grew rapidly. From the reference and page number above, regarding the British attack on December 30, 1813, it is written that *"In the night preceding that day of trial George Coit loaded a wagon with a part of his goods and drove his partner, who was a cripple, away from the lines of the incendiary enemy, to Williamsville. Returning to the scene of desolation, the partners procured a small wooden building which from its insignificance had survived the conflagration."* In 1814 they started to construct boats. He married, Hannah, the sister of Charles Townsend in 1815.

In Section N, Franklin Square, the gravestone of Capt. Joseph Kenny has inscribed on it personal thanks from the family of Joseph Kenny, to George Coit for his assistance in burying Joseph. They both appeared to be from the same Village Norwich, CT., and obviously knew each other. Both Charles Townsend and George Coit were involved with Samuel Wilkinson in financing and improving the harbor of Buffalo which eventually would lead to Buffalo being the western terminus of the Erie Canal.

SECTION AA

William C. Fargo, Lot 35.

According to the *Genealogy Record of the Fargo Family, pgs 6,7, By John G. Giblin,* William C. Fargo arrived in Buffalo in September, 1810 and remained here until his enlistment. *"In May of 1812 he entered the service of the U.S. Army in the pending war with Great Britain. William C. Fargo was enlisted by Lieut. John O'Connor, at Buffalo, NY, May 7th, 1812 and in June following went to Canandaigua and joined the company commanded by Capt. James Mc Kenn, from which place he went to Fort Niagara, then under the command of one Captain Leonard. On October 12, 1812, he was detached from Capt. Mc Kenn's company and placed under the command of Lieut. Richard M. Bailey, and on the evening of that day marched to Lewiston. On the following day he crossed with his company to Queenston and participated in the battle. During the fight he was wounded in the right thigh by a musket ball and was taken back to Lewiston, where he remained in the hospital until February, 1813 and was then taken to Fort Niagara. On the 22nd of September, 1813 he was placed on an unlimited furlough on account of his wound, and remained on furlough until October, 1814. He then joined Capt. R. Jones's company at Sacket's Harbor, and was afterwards transferred to the company commanded by Benj. K. Pierce, and served as a sergeant at Fort Mackinaw, then under the command of Col. John McNeil, until May 7th, 1817 when he was honorably discharged."*

His son William G. was the co-founder of Wells Fargo Express Co; later the American Express Co; He also was Mayor of Buffalo during the Civil War.

SECTION BB

Sarah Lovejoy, Lot 35.

She was the wife of Joshua, and mother of Henry. The Lovejoy residence, at the time of the burning of Buffalo was located on Van Staphorst St., Main Street today, identified as 465 Main Street, and according to Historic Buffalo, Erie Bicentennial Commission, 1974, this was a marked site meaning there may have been a historical plaque located there at some time. The following is from *Publications of the*

Buffalo Historical Society, Volume IX, 1906, Papers Relating to the Burning of Buffalo Story of the St John House, pg 342, By Martha St John Skinner When the British attacked Buffalo on December 30, 1813, Sarah defended her house with her life. Her home was attacked by British Indians and Mrs. St John *"saw an Indian pulling the curtains down from the window of the Lovejoy's house and saw Mrs. Lovejoy strike his hand with a carving knife and then the witnessed the Indian raise his hatchet; but as the door closed she could not know certain that he killed her. She did not dare to go and see."*

The following is also from the same reference, *pg 342,* and it includes a conversation that Mrs. St John has with a British officer who had just approached her house: *"Soon there came along an advance guard with a cannon and a British colonel on horseback. He spoke very cross, and why are you not away? Mother said she lost the opportunity and now she had nowhere to go, only out in the cold and perish in the snow. He said I have just seen a very unpleasant sight in the house over the way. The Indians have killed a woman and I am very sorry any such thing should happen. Well, said mother I was fearful she would provoke them to kill her. I spoke to her and said Do not risk your life for property; she answered When my property goes my life shall go with it."*

From this same reference, *pg 343,* it is written of this incident: *"In the course of the day the house of Mrs. Lovejoy was set on fire and mother and sisters Maria and Sarah, with the hired man, old Mr. Pettingill, and others, went to the house and took the body of Mrs. Lovejoy out and laid it on a pile of boards by the side of the fence, so it would not be consumed by the fire. Then they went into the house and saw it did not burn fast, so they made an attempt to put out the fire and did succeed; and when night was coming on they thought they would carry the body in again, and as the old man was very weak and feeble they needed more help. They looked up the street and saw Mr. Walden, Section X. So Sister Sarah started on a run to ask him to come and assist. He came, and with mother, Maria, Sarah lifted her and carried her in and laid her on the cords of a bedstead."*

From this same reference, pgs *343-344,* an account sent to Mrs. Martha St John Skinner, from a gentleman who said *"he was a boy at the time that Buffalo was burned and was living about a half a mile from Buffalo towards Black Rock; that his father took his gun and went to the battle; that he and his mother prepared breakfast, but before they could eat his father returned and said they had not time to lose, the British were just behind them; so they dashed out and followed with the crowd and came up to where they were loading the gun, ready for resistance, but they did not dare to stop. They followed the crowd up the creek, but they did not cross the creek staying about and sleeping that night in a barn. The next morning they returned to the village and went to Mrs. St John's and got some breakfast and they then went over to see Mrs. Lovejoy. She was lying on the bedstead; she was a tall woman, was dressed in a black silk dress, with her long black hair hanging down or reaching through the cords and lying on the floor. He said they all stood about her and shed tears. Then the Indians came again the third day and set the house on fire and she was burned in it and Mr. Lovejoy had returned and gathered his wife's bones in a handkerchief and buried them."*

At this location, on the large stone the inscription of Sarah's demise reads "Killed by the Indians at the Burning of Buffalo December 30, 1813." However, some 60 miles east of Buffalo at the Mumford Rural Cemetery, in Caledonia, NY a stone in the Judge W.H. Smith family plot, near the road, has the inscription "Sarah Johnson wife of Joshua Lovejoy Born Oct. 21, 1771, was killed by the Indians at the Burning of Buffalo Dec. 30, 1813." So where is she?

Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume XXV, Book of the Museum, 1925, pgs 383-84, mention of local relics in their collection to include "Mrs. Lovejoy's little cowhide covered trunk. It recalls rather vividly Buffalo's greatest tragedy, in which Mrs. Lovejoy's house and her massacred body was consumed by the flames."

Joshua Lovejoy, Lot 35.

He was the husband of Sarah who was at Black Rock fighting the British during the British attack on Buffalo and had not made it home in time. According to *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society Volume XXIX, The War of 1812 on the Niagara Frontier By Louis L. Babcock, 1927 War Losses on the Niagara Frontier, pg 260, Joshua Lovejoy in February, 1814 was compensated $25.00 by the Committee on Safety and Relief for his losses during the British attack of December 30, 1813.*

Henry Lovejoy, Lot 35.

He was the 12 year old son of Joshua and Sarah Lovejoy. During the incident of October 9, 1812, when the British ships the Caledonia and Detroit were captured by the American raiding parties, and artillery was exchanged across the River, it was written by Benson Lossing in the *Pictorial Field Book of the War of 1812, 1869, footnote, pg 387, that after a shot had buried itself in the banks of the river that "two small boys Cyrus St. John and Henry Lovejoy who came down from Buffalo to see the fight, exhumed the shot and carried it home as a trophy of their valor."* Of course, as mentioned previously Henry Lovejoy would lose his friend Cyrus to a camp fever during the upcoming winter.

Henry had fought the British on July 11, 1813 at Black Rock. It was written of him in *Flames Across the Border, 1813-1814, third printing 1983, By Pierre Berton, pg 264,* about this day that *"during Bishopp's raid on Black Rock he carried a musket bigger than himself." Also, written in Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society Volume I, pg 194,1879, The Village of Buffalo During the War of 1812, by William Dorsheimer, is "Henry Lovejoy, then a boy of twelve, took part in this affair carrying, as well as his strength would permit, a huge flint lock musket."* Also, written in The *Pictorial Book of the War of 1812, By Benson Lossing, 1869, footnote pg 637,* is the following about young Henry on that same day *"Henry Lovejoy was then a lad of twelve years of age and was in the affair at Black Rock when Bisshopp was repulsed, where he carried a flint lock musket, too huge for this strength to bear it long."*

According to the *History of Buffalo and Erie County 1620-1884, 1884, Edited By H. Perry Smith, Volume II, pg 60,* it was written that *"Henry, said the bold hearted woman to her little son, you have fought against the British; you must run. They will take you prisoner. I am a woman; they will not harm me. The lad flew into the woods." He was not captured.* From the same reference, a footnote, *pg 60, was written that "Henry Lovejoy was then twelve years old, and carried a musket and took part to the best of his ability in the defence of Black rock on the 11th of July of that year."*

MAIN STREET AREA

Flint Hill According to *Publications Buffalo Historical Society, Volume I, 1879 Buffalo Cemeteries by William Hodge, Soldier's Burial Places, The Grave in the Park Meadow, pgs 66-68,* the following description of this area and why it is so named is written as *"Gen Smyth's Regulars were encamped in the fall and winter of 1812 on Flint Hill. Its name was derived from the fact that the rock here and in the region round about comes very near to the surface, and even frequently crops out above it."*

Another reference of the troops encamped here at Flint Hill is from the *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume IV, 1896, The Adventures and Enterprises of Elijah Efner, pgs 46-47.* Elijah Efner writes that *"There were some Pennsylvania troops where Delaware Street now is, south of Ferry Street, and the U. S. regular Infantry were at Flint Hill on the Granger Farm. It was Smyth's Brigade."* According to *Publications Buffalo Historical Society, Volume XXVI, footnote, pg 181, The William Hodge Papers, 1922, "The name Flint Hill was applied to the region between the Chapin farmhouse and Scajaquada Creek. Col. William W. Chapin's father Daniel Chapin had built his log house in 1807 at what is now the southwest corner of Main St. and Jewett Parkway."* This estate known as "Willow Lawn" would be passed on to William Chapin, the son of Doctor Chapin and then later, in 1864, purchased by Elam Jewett.

In September 1812, General Alexander Smyth marched into Buffalo with the intentions of invading Canada from Buffalo and Black Rock. He had no intentions of joining the American Force assembling at Lewiston to invade Canada from that point. Although some of his troops would take part on October 13, 1812 with the Battle of Queenston. Smyth's army, and those to follow, would encamp on Flint Hill at that time. Flint Hill was so named because of the abundance of flint rock, which cropped out, and made it a dry and desirable place to camp. Smyth's army was in terrible shape on its arrival here and even this so-called desirable place would not help for what was to come. On Smyth's coattails or maybe it was all ready imbedded in the area, by some of the deaths already mentioned in this text, was a terrible scourge which would show no mercy to either troops or civilians of the Niagara Frontier. What made this even worse was that no one knew what it was or how to cure it. It was described as a "dreadful contagion" with symptoms of respiratory failure, head pain, dysentery, and measles creating an incredible suffering and usually ending ones misery in a few days. Also complicating any type of care or attention to it was the lack of medical supplies in general and constant casualties which were being suffered from the artillery exchanges which would be conducted between the batteries on each side of the river. After Smyth's failed attempts to invade Canada, some of the troops retired to Williamsville but many stayed encamped on Flint Hill for the winter and they would suffer even more from this plaque. There were hundreds of desertions

from the Regiments along the whole line of the Niagara Frontier as a result of the poor conditions; the scourge, and the poor leadership of General Alexander Smyth. Smyth would finally leave Buffalo on December 17, 1812, luckily because it was written in, *Municipality of Buffalo, New York A History 1720-1923, By Henry Wayland Hill, pg 133, 1923, that "so great was the feeling against him that for some time his person was in danger, and he was more than once fired at when he left his tent."*
The following are some recorded histories, from the *Buffalo Gazette, November 12, 1812 thru February 23, 1813 and from a report entitled "On the Manner in which the war has been conducted" communicated to the House of Representatives February 21, 1814, 13th Congress 2nd session No. 130, National Archives,* Pittsfield, MA, of the conditions of this encampment are as follows:

October 5, 1812 concerning the 12th Regiment of Infantry, upon their arrival, it was written "the knapsacks are very bad as are the canteens; this regiment has not received a single article of woolen clothing; the tents are very bad; the surgeon states that he is without medicine, hospital stores, surgical instruments. All the men are without coats, and many without shoes or stockings, and have been obliged to mount guard during the cold and stormy weather barefoot."

October 27, 1812 General Alexander Smyth writes from his headquarters near Buffalo: "Captain Allison will today vacate the court house to be used as a hospital. He will take possession of the barracks in which Capt. Harris's company of militia has been stationed."

November 7, 1812, Colonel Winder, Commanding Fort Niagara, would write to General Smyth "We are literally starving on this end of the line for bread."

November 11, 1812 the Gazette would report In the Hospital in this village about 20 soldiers have died belonging to the army of General Smyth.

November 17, 1812 the Buffalo Gazette would list the names of 24 soldiers who died in United States Hospital at Buffalo from October 28 thru November 15, 1812

November 22, 1812 Brig General Tannehill, of the Pennsylvania Volunteers addresses a letter to Gen. Smyth, from "Camp at Granger's Farm."

November 30, 1812 General Smyth would write from his headquarters at Black Rock "the camp at the plains near Mr. Granger's will be broken."

November 27th 1812,Camp Buffalo from a Major Campbell to General Smyth; "The Surgeon has now in the hospital tents at camp, about 40 men, most of whom he is apprehensive will not survive. The field officer of the day has also taken a view of the hospital tent of the 13th Regiment. Five men were lying there dead. He was told they were dead for twenty four hours and were not buried for want of coffins. The sides of the tent were forced open by the wind and the sick men were exposed to the weather."

December 1, 1812 Brigadier General A, Tannehill would respond to General Smyth's order to break camp at Granger's. It appears he is staying near there: "the result has been the choice of cantonment near Buffalo. I have directed the Quartermaster of the brigade with the assistance of five officers to examine for situation which I expect to be near our present encampment. Your approbation to this choice will relieve my men from much fatigue of marching to a more distant place as also from an inclement season."

December 8, 1812 the Gazette reports eight more soldiers and three civilians died in this village. One of those listed is Samuel Atkins, age 50, possibly the Revolutionary War Veteran and proprietor of Atkins Tavern on the Buffalo Plains.

December 15, 1812 the following notice would appear in the Buffalo Gazette "A meeting of the Physicians and Surgeons of the town of Buffalo and its vicinity as well residents as those belonging to the Army are earnestly requested at Mr. Cook's Tavern on Wednesday the 16th to take into consideration the most approved method of arresting the progress of the present epidemical disease, so destructive in its nature to

the troops stationed on this frontier and the inhabitants generally of this county. Cyrenius Chapin and Nathaniel Wilson."

December 22, 1812 the Gazette reports "A number of the regular troops have died since our last. We have endeavored to obtain their names but have been unsuccessful." One civilian listed is Ward Cotton, Revolutionary War veteran, age 50.
Also in this edition the following is printed regarding the sickness: "The fever which has made such dreadful havoc among our soldiers and citizens continue to rage. The Physicians are taking unwearied plans to ascertain the character of the disease and to prescribe an effectual remedy for it. Bloodletting is generally fatal in violent cases."

August 2, 1814, According to *Documentary History of the Campaign on the Niagara Frontier in 1814, Edited for the Lundy' Lane Historical Society by Capt. Ernest Cruikshank, Part I, page 118, In a "Secret" order from Lt. Col. J. Harvey, Aide to British General Gordon Drummond, to Maj. General Conran, dated Headquarters August 2, 1814,* the following is an excerpt of the orders of the British attack on Black Rock on August 3, 1814. *"The force will embark at 10 o'clock as near to Frenchman's Creek as may be considered prudent. It is desirable to land it as near the foot of Squaw Island as possible. Proper pilots will be put into the boats, and guides will be sent to conduct the columns, which is to proceed with all possible silence and secrecy by the right bank of Conguichity Creek to gain the road leading upon the 11 Mile Creek from Buffalo, which place is to be the first attacked and destroyed and the boats and craft (if any) seized."*

Note: If this operation was successful, this would have put the British invaders at what is today Main Street, where Conjockety Creek flows under and from where they would have begun their assault on the Village. At that time there was a bridge there, and Main Street was known then as 11 mile Creek Road because it was approximately 11 miles from the mouth of Buffalo Creek to Williamsville. I am sure they would have left a post there to secure the bridge and their backside. Also this would have put the British troops practically on the doorstep of Erastus Granger's house. This was the main East West road to and from Buffalo. Also note how Harvey butchered the spelling of the creek

Note: On the Northwest corner of Main Street and Humboldt Parkway, in the city of Buffalo, is a Historical marker entitled Flint Hill Encampment 1812 which recognizes General Smyth's encampment which was established on Flint Hill, on the Granger Farm in anticipation of an invasion of Canada by the American Army. It also mentions the devastating epidemic which ravaged their camp and the Niagara Frontier during that terrible winter of 1812-13 and the burials of those that died. It was erected by the Parkside Community Association and Sister's Hospital in 2000.

William Hodge Sr,

Was residing at the Brick Tavern on the Hill, located at the southwest corner of what is Utica and Main Sts today, was contracted to provide as many as 300 coffins to bury the dead soldiers during the winter of 1812-13. According to *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume XXVI, 1922, pg 179, The William Hodge Papers it is written "In the winter of 1812-13, he furnished many pine coffins, nearly three hundred in all, for the soldiers who died while encamped on Flint Hill north of Conjockety Creek."*

The following is from Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume I, 1879, Buffalo Cemeteries, the Graves in the Park Meadow, pg 67, by William Hodge regarding these deaths and their burials: *"The troops of General Smyth remained at Flint Hill until the following spring. During this time there prevailed among them a typhoid epidemic. Deprived as they were of comfortable hospitals, and a sufficient supply of medical agents, it carried off about three hundred of them. They were put into plain pine board coffins, furnished by William Hodge Sr., and temporarily buried near the south line of the Chapin place; but the rock came so near to the surface that their graves could not be more than about a foot in depth. The ensuing spring they were removed some distance, to the north side of the farm, where the ground was a sandy loam and easily dug. Leave to bury them there being given by the respective owners of the farms, Capt. Rowland Cotton and Doctor Daniel Chapin, they were deposited directly on the dividing line between these farms, in one common grave. Doctor Chapin planted two yellow willows, one at each*

end of the grave which have become large trees, and are yet growing. The grave itself remaining undisturbed to this day."

In 1896, those two majestic giants still stood guard over the grave of those soldiers and the location was commonly known as the "mound in the meadow." A *local newspaper would write May 30, 1896 "Since Memorial Day a great many visitors to the Park have strolled out to look at the "mound in the meadow". The mound is situated in the Park Meadow and marked by two large willow trees that are very noticeable from the adjacent roadways. In this mound sleep the bodies of 300 unknown American soldiers who died here during the fall and winter of 1812."*
In the report, included in the *Twenty Seventh Annual Report Buffalo Park Commissioners January, 1897 entitled "Public Ceremonies in Connection with the Dedication of the Monument in the Park Meadow On July 4th, 1896 to the Memory of the Soldiers of the War of 1812"* it mentions *"The dead were first interred near the camp, but the next year the bodies were removed by Dr. Daniel Chapin to this place, where they were buried in two great trenches, at either end of which the good Doctor planted the two willow wands. It is an interesting fact that they were cut from the great willow on the lawn of Dr. Chapin's home on Main Street."*

The Buffalo Evening News on December 12, 1929, included in its series The Story of Buffalo, includes a picture of the boulder, the cannons and mention of the flagpole. This location today is the meadow of Delaware Park where a large boulder with a plaque pays tribute to those that died such a terrible death that winter. The dedication of this boulder took place on July 4, 1896. Later, a flagpole would be erected, and two cannons would be positioned. Today only the boulder remains with the inscription: "To the memory of unnamed soldiers of the War of 1812 who died of camp disease and were buried here Dedicated July 4, 1896."

According to the *Niagara Frontier A Narrative and Documentary History, By Merton Wilner, 1931, Volume I, pg 218,* in reference to the winter of 1812-13 at Buffalo and Flint Hill; *"Up to the time of Gen. Smyth's abortive campaign, the troops were kept in tents, which made cold quarters for December in Buffalo. After the abandonment of the offensive, they were ordered to build huts, but were slow in complying. Buffalo families took some soldiers into their homes, but the village was to small to accommodate a great number. The winter of 1812-13 in the camp at Flint Hill was a time of suffering and death, such as casts a lasting reproach on the government. Even in early November, Gen. Smyth reported that the hospitals were filled with sick men, and measles and dysentery were finding new victims daily. Conditions grew worse as the winter advanced. Typhoid became epidemic. Hospitals were crude and inadequate. Medical men were few and supplies were insufficient. During that terrible winter, William Hodge made about 300 coffins for soldiers in that single camp. The thin soil even refused them graves. The dead were buried first near Scajaquada Creek where bedrock was struck within a foot or two of the surface. The following spring the bodies were exhumed and re-buried in one common grave at a spot which is now near the center of the Park Meadow. No record was kept of the names of those poor fellows. For many years their resting place was marked only by two willow trees, which the thoughtful Dr. Chapin planted."*

To think that in the spring of 1813 some of the deserters who escaped this camp of Hell, to save their own lives, and had been captured were actually executed, to serve as an example, on Main St across from St. Mary's School, along a row of Oak trees, for their desertion from Smyth's encampment. According to *Publications Buffalo Historical Society, Volume XVIII, pg 355, edited by Frank Severance, 1914, Editorial Notes, Mr. Barton Atkins wrote, In 1898, of these trees "On the Main Street front of this old camp ground stand several venerable oaks, relicts of the old camp. The one directly opposite the School for the deaf is distinguished as the one under which a row of soldiers kneeled when shot for desertion in the spring of 1813. One of these old trees still remains, at no. 24 Florence Avenue."*

Erastus Granger's home

Was located, near where the creek and Main St. are. As stated he purchased this property in 1806 from Capt. William Johnson. According to *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume XVI, Picture Book of Buffalo, pg 340, Edited By Frank Severance, 1912,* there is a sketch of a house identified as his. However, it also states it was built in 1792. According to *The William Hodge Papers, pg 172, Publications Buffalo Historical Society, Volume XXVI, 1922,* Mr. Hodge tells of his arrival in the area in 1805 and he *"engaged a Maj. Perry who owned and occupied the farm which has been so long known as the Granger property on Conjockety Creek at the crossing of Main Street. He immediately occupied the log house, at the Perry saw mill. In this house he lived till fall."* So it may be possible that the house sketched

may have been Major Perry's and Erastus may have built more onto it. During General Smith's encampment during the Winter of 1812-13, the Granger home was the headquarters for General Smyth and his aides. According to *The Documentary History of the Campaign Upon the Niagara Frontier in the Year 1812, Part II by Lieut. Col. Ernest Cruickshank, printed at Welland, 1899, Statement of David Harvey, pg 249 "That the enemy have about 3,000 regular troops one mile and a half in rear of Black rock, under camp at a place called Judge Granger's, where the General (Smyth) his aide de camp and several officers of rank live." He describes the camp "That their camp unhealthy; that they die 8-9 daily; that the place of burial is about 50 rods back of the camp and that tow acres are covered with the buried dead. The doctors say the disease is as bad as the plague."* From the same reference, *pg 279,* as a result of the discontent of the troops toward Smyth, it is written that *"General Smyth has been shot at and buried and buried in effigy."* On *pg 281, from the New York Gazette, December 15, 1812* an extract of a letter states *"During Tuesday night different parties came to Judge Granger's where Gen. Smyth had lodged and swore they would have him dead or alive; $1,500.00 is said to be offered for his head and he is no more seen."*

Another account about the troop's feelings toward General Smyth is from the same reference as above, *pg 247* the *"Statement of Bill Sherman"* about General Smyth's discontent with militia under his command *"Indignant at this, they fired twice at the General and shot the belt from his side at camp. The militia and volunteers then offered 200 dollars for his person, and fired off all their ammunition and disembodied themselves, that is, the greater part made their way home."*

This area, near the creek, was the location of many Seneca Councils among the mighty oaks. It was at this location that those involved in removing the remains of the Seneca chiefs from the Reservation Cemetery in South Buffalo to Forest Lawn Cemetery had preferred the remains to be interred. This was the site of many councils attended by them. From a *Courier article, undated, "The site formerly occupied by General Granger's residence would be peculiarly appropriate."* This was stated by William C. Bryant as he planned his trip to the Cattaraugus Reservation on September 22, 1876 to speak to the council on obtaining these remains to be removed.

Erastus's son Warren, in 1840, would construct a castle like home, on the north side of the creek, in what is now Section 28. It was considered the most imposing home in the city and was a meeting place for many a Republican function including plans of support for Lincoln. The stone used for the home was quarried from the cemetery quarry at that time. This house, because of its condition was razed in 1944.

The story accounted for in the Velorus Hodge location, Section F, occurred at the bridge over Main St. at this location.

SECTION 20

Amos Callender, Lot 174.

He came to Buffalo in 1807 or 8. He was a bookkeeper, schoolteacher and one of the early members of the First Presbyterian Church. According to the *Publication175th Anniversary First Presbyterian Church, Buffalo, New York, 1812-1987, War Comes To Buffalo, pg 5,* it mentions of Amos Callender, when the British attacked Buffalo on December 30, 1813 that *"When the invasion came Amos Callender, fled to Batavia, taking with him tradition says, in a pillowcase the precious minutes of the Church, thus preserving an unbroken record."*

It is mentioned in *Niagara Frontier A Narrative and Documentary History, Volume II, 1931, pgs 854-855, by Merton M. Wilner* while writing about the early school house of Buffalo in 1807-08, it mentions that *"the school attracted pupils from the surrounding towns on account of the superiority of instruction. Its most noteworthy teacher before the War of 1812 was Amos Callender, who came here from Vermont in 1807-08 and filled an important place in the community for half a century."* He was a Deputy Postmaster and in 1813 he was appointed Surrogate of Niagara County. While in this capacity his office was on the west side of Cayuga St., Pearl Street today, between Seneca and Swan Sts. When Buffalo was attacked on December 30, 1813, Amos Callender took with him on his flight to Batavia taking with him tradition says in a pillowcase the precious minutes of the First Church which preserved an unbroken recording. According to *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society Volume XXIX, 1927, The War of 1812 on the Niagara Frontier, By Louis L. Babcock, 1927, War Losses on the Niagara Frontier, pg 257, Mr. Callender would receive $25.00 from the Committee of Safety and Relief of Canandaigua for his losses resulting from the British attack.* .He was Secretary of the "Moral Society of Buffalo" which was the organization which enforced the laws of the Sabbath meaning no working, hunting, driving a team, or

stores being open. From the *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society volume XXVI, 1922, Editorial notes, page 438, the following was a description of this society, signed by Amos Callender: "The Moral Society of Buffalo was an organization in existence in 1818, or earlier, as is shown by a record in the possession of the Buffalo Historical Society. It contains the following notice: "Warning All persons are hereby warned against teaming, unloading goods, wares or merchandise on the Sabbath. The keeping open of stores and all hunting and fishing are likewise forbidden on the Sabbath. Parties of pleasure riding or walking to Black Rock or elsewhere are also prohibited. All Sabbath desecrators will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law. Signed Moral society of Buffalo; Deacon Amos Callender."*

Pliny and Olivia Mitchell Field, Lot 51.

They were the proprietors of the Field's Tavern in Black Rock previous to the war and during it. According to *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Earlier Buffalo Picture Book, Volume XVI, 1912, Early Black Rock Facts, pg 261*, this Tavern, was located on the southeast corner of Niagara and Auburn Sts. This reference continues to state that *"Field's Tavern. Auburn Avenue from present Niagara Street to the river and that vicinity was the scene of the principal fighting in the Battle of Black Rock."* Also, printed in the *Courier, January 11, 1881,* was an account, which was read before the Buffalo Historical Society meeting in 1881, which included interesting extracts from a journal written by Olivia Mitchell Field to include events from 1810 to 1815. Some of those entries are:
"I was married to Pliny A. Field, September, 1810 and went to Vermont to visit his parents. In June 1811 I returned to Black Rock and commenced housekeeping. The din of war which we had been hearing at a distance and which we still hoped was distant came nearer and nearer and it burst upon us by the declaration of it in June 1812. Although there was some militia here before this time yet we were not willing to believe it was a certainty until now. The music of the saw and hammer was drowned in the deafening notes of the fife and drum, and by the shrill notes of the bugle from Canada. Now what was to be done with all this new population? For the soldiers they could pitch tents. But for the officers, why they were e not use to it; never had slept on the ground and how could they begin now? So each family took as many as they could accommodate to board. Mr. Field had built our house so large that we used a part of it for a cabinet shop and was doing a very successful business. But who would want furniture now? So there was an end to, that business and the next best thing to be done was to build a bar room, hang out a sign, and keep tavern."

Her narrative continues to give some very interesting descriptions of late 1812 at Black Rock, including the taking of the Caledonia and Adams; the British cannonading from across the river and their association with the Stannard and Bidwell families to include taking shelter in the old Porter House (located on the southwest corner of Niagara and Auburn Sts.). She would relate to the cannonading from October 9, 1812 into the future: *"Sometimes it would begin in the night when the only safe place would be in our cellars as the balls would often go through our houses and we were only safe when below the level of the ground. General Porter had a large stone house, with a basement kitchen, and we thought it a great luxury if we could get there where we could have a fire all night, as cellars were so damp. But there were so many families went there that we would sometimes have to manage some other way."*
She includes the terrible epidemic which took so many at this time including a child of theirs. *"The country all around suffered more or less with a violent fever which was called the Epidemic. It was very sudden in its termination and few got well who were attacked by it. My husband and myself had slight attacks of it but our lives were spared and our dear child was taken a beautiful babe of sixteen months. A good many families left Black Rock that winter for more peaceable quarters and it would have been our choice to have done so but our business was so prosperous that it was hard work to leave it. So many families left that the officers secured their houses for quarters. Mr. Field and Mr. Seeley were sutlers for the troops, and that is very profitable, for their bills and those of the washer women are always paid by the paymaster before the soldiers can draw any of his wages. Another thing, our cabinet shop was turned into a coffin factory which kept several men employed and used up materials for cabinet making which otherwise would have been lost."*

She goes into detail, as a citizen, describing the attack by the British at Black Rock on July 11, 1813 to include her encounter with them at the tavern. She describes her attempt to save some valuables from a neighbor's house from the British: *"It was a Sabbath morning. One of our neighbors knocked on our window and awoke us by telling us that the British were in the village. On looking out we saw a small detachment of red coats marching through. The sun was just rising and the glitter of the arms and*

uniforms was rather dazzling. I helped Mr. Field to dress as quickly as possible. He took a musket and some ammunition and started for the woods by going out the back door of the house would prevent his being seen until he reached the woods. Before he went he called to Mr. Seelye and Mr. Sill who were sleeping in the chamber, and told them to do the same. But Mr. Seelye went to a front window and looked out; Col. Bisshopp was mounted on General Porter's horse giving orders to his men. He told them that all private property was to be respected and all citizens not found under arms. Seelye supposed of course that they were safe and called to Mr. Sill whose name was Joseph, Joe he says, come look out. Col Bisshopp heard him and looked up at the window and says Ha! Is Joe there? Come down we have a guard for you. So they came down and were marched off as prisoners of war. They were exchanged in a bout a week with several others. One man named Wright was shot while running for the woods .I took one of my girls and went to Mr. Seelye's house, which was near and persuaded them to let me have a tea set which I knew she prized very highly a sort of heirloom. When all other arguments failed, I told them that if they came home with me I would give them all the whiskey they could carry away. They gave it to e and a piece of cotton cloth which I saved for her. So much for my whiskey and that wasn't all the poor fellows got so drunk that they were taken prisoners and their officers did not know where they got the stuff or they would have prevented it." She describes the burning of the Navy barracks, a blockhouse and a vessel tied up in the creek. She also mentions the death of a Col. Clark (note: Clark did not die) and the wounding of Col. Bishopp and a Capt. Saunders who recovered and later was exchanged. She recalled *"They burned the Navy barracks at the lower village, a fine large building. They also burned the block house and a vessel lying in Sacajaquada Creek. They did not burn private property this time. But they had a brand of fire in a stump all ready to set the store house on fire as soon as they could get all the goods out of it which they were very busy trying to do when our people came down upon them in such hot haste that they were glad to take themselves off as best they could. Col. Bisshopp was shot through then hand, which mortified and killed him finally. Col. Clark also died of wounds he received in the brat.(Clark was wounded but did not die) Captain Saunders was left wounded on the river bank and was taken to General Porter's house and taken care of and recovered and was afterwards exchanged. We had several false alarms and I left home a good many times to give them a chance to burn our house and go back and find it there. Sometimes I would go to Major Miller's who lived at Cold Spring, but they began to run away from that neighborhood thinking they were not secure there. Then I would go to Dr. Daniel Chapin's, who lived out on the Plains beyond the Granger place. " In late 1813 she mentions "In the fall we began to feel more secure, after Perry's victory on Lake Erie, and a fresh arrival of troops under Gen Amos Hull's command. We anticipated a much pleasanter winter than we had the year before."*

Mrs. Field would write *"November 11th my son was born that dear and only son that ended his precious and eventful life at the storming of Monterey."* Her son was George Pliny Field who was killed at the battle of Monterey, Mexico, August 21, 1846. He was first buried there and then his remains were recovered and brought back to Buffalo to be buried in the North Street Cemetery, site of the Masten Avenue Armory now, then to be removed here on June 13, 1901 with his parents Pliny who died on May 31, 1817 and Olivia February 10, 1858. On one side of obelisk, behind the two long stones, part of the inscription reads; *"Capt. Field Were removed from Monterey to this place for internment and this monument erected in his memory by his bereaved widow."*

According to an article written in the *Express December 22, 1901* it mentions the removals of the Field family from the North Street Cemetery and it states the following about poor Pliny A. Field from a scrapbook of the family *"From the Journal, Buffalo Tuesday June 3, 1817 It relates the "Melancholy Accident" of the drowning in the Niagara River of Pliny A. Field, not then 35 years of age whose boat was struck by a flaw of wind. Mr. Field was buried in the old Black Rock Cemetery and was afterward removed to the Franklin Square Cemetery. Later his remains were placed in the private cemetery so-called in North Street."* According to this, Forest Lawn Cemetery is the fourth stop for poor Pliny to find a place of rest. I am confident this will be his eternal home.

According to *Memorial and Family History of Erie County, New York, Volume I, 1906-08, pg 118, Sawyer Family, "George Pliny Field was an infant at the burning of Black Rock by the British and Indians in 1813. Escaping from the catastrophe with her child, Mrs. Field fled from Black Rock to Batavia, by the way of Williamsville, taking with her household goods, which she had loaded onto a cart. Her home was burned, but after the invasion was over she returned to Black Rock and built a house. Pliny A. Filed served with the Patriot Army in the defense of the Niagara Frontier. George Pliny Filed, the son of Pliny and Olivia Field was educated at West Point. He served in the Mexican War and was killed at the Battle of Monterey."*

In the *May 19, 1901 edition of the Express* the following was written about some of the military removals from the old North Street Cemetery and about when they were first buried there: *"Another Hero's Body. The citizens of Buffalo brought home the remains of Capt. Williams and at the same time those of Capt. George P. Field of the 3rd Infantry. Capt. Field's widow erected a monument which stands in old North Street Cemetery to this day and bears this inscription A Christian soldier, George P. Field, Captain of the 3rd Infantry USA who was killed at the storming of Monterey, Mexico September 21, 1846 age 32 years."* The remains of the two officers were recovered and removed to Buffalo in 1847. In the *Commercial, Saturday Evening, July 22, 1899* it is included in an article on the North Street Cemetery that *"Capt. Field was only 33 years old when the fierce Mexicans killed him. His aged mother, Olivia Mitchell Field, who passed away in 1858 at the age of 71 years is also interred here, likewise the body of her husband, Pliny Field, who was accidentally drowned in the Niagara River, May 31, 1817, at the age of 34."*

Mrs. Field makes note of her experience, fleeing the attacking British, during the burning of Buffalo on December 30, 1813 and her last memories of Mrs. Lovejoy: *"We came through Buffalo, fearing the Indians if we came through the woods, which was much nearer. When we got into the village there was such confusion about the public houses, drums beating to arms, officers riding about giving orders, etc that it was impossible for us to stop. I was very cold and must stop somewhere. We saw a light at Mr. Lovejoy's and so called there. They were very kind. She asked me what I would have. I told her if she would make me a bowl of sage tea I thought it would save my life; I was almost exhausted. She did so and I got warm, and we were about starting when they came to warn Mr. Lovejoy to join the troops in defense of the place. We then asked her to go away with us, and Mr. Lovejoy urged her to do so, as he would have to go and leave her unprotected, for if he did not join the troops he would be taken prisoner. After much persuasion she finally consented to go if we would take the largest trunk I ever saw on our cart. That was impossible, but Mr. Field told her she might take all there was in the trunk and as much more as she wished, is she would do them up in bundles as we had our things, as he could fasten them onto the cart with bed cords as ours were. But that would not do, and we could not persuade her to go if we did not carry the trunk; so we were obliged to leave her, and the Indians killed her."*

The Field's made their safe escape to Williamsville and after a few weeks Mrs. Field returned to Buffalo and took leave of the chimneys all which remained with but a few exceptions.

The following is just a note pertaining to the death of Col Bishopp who led the British attack at Black Rock on July 11, 1813 and was wounded and who would die a few days later. Col Bishopp sounded like a good old guy. He was willing to pay for tea rather than just take it, even during a time of war, (Mrs. Bidwell's account, Section H). His boys were to leave private property alone and respect non combatants. He sounded like a man who was well liked and respected on both sides and he was. The Buffalo Gazette, August 31, 1813, would write the following about his death *"We indulged the pleasing hope that Col. Bishopp would have recovered of his wounds received at Black Rock; but we have now to lament our sad disappointment. The latest accounts confirm the death of that most excellent man and excellent officer. Born to an independent fortune, rather than enjoy it at ease in England, he preferred fighting the battle of his country abroad. He lived the soldier's friend, and died universally regretted."*

On the Niagara Frontier, early on in the War, there appeared to be honor and respect from and towards each side by the other. Some examples are *Buffalo Gazette October 13, 1812 "Commendable Justice in the Enemy" "In our paper of September 29, we gave an account of the plunder of several families at Sturgeon Point by the crew of a British boat. A proper representation of the act being made to the British Commander at Fort Erie, last week, a flag arrived, and brought over all the plundered articles they could find about the boats and 300 dollars in British gold to repair the damage. We understand a letter accompanied the money and goods, disavowing the unwarrantable act and apologizing in a very handsome manner for the outrage. The evils of war would be much diminished, should this principle be acted upon at all places on the frontiers."*

Another example of honor would be demonstrated by the American forces after the death of General Issac Brock at the battle of Queenston, Oct 12, 1812 when commander General S.V. Rensselaer in a letter, to Maj Gen Sheafee of the British Army, dated Headquarters, Lewiston, Oct 16, 1812 would instruct *"I shall order a salute for the funeral of Major General Brock, to be fired this afternoon, both here, and at Fort Niagara."* This is from *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume XVII, Edited by Frank Severance, 1913, pg 282.* This would change all to soon.

Back to Col Bisshopp for a final note, the good Colonel apparently did not die from his wounds but rather mental anguish for the loss of life suffered by his troops for him staying to long and having to

rescue him. According to *Flames Across the Border, 1813-1814.by Pierre Berton, 1983 pg 96,* of the death of Bisshopp he wrote *"His physical wounds are not serious; his mental sufferings are. He cannot forgive himself for the loss of his men, cannot accept the idea that a single soldier should be shot while trying to rescue him. The surgeon who attends him has no fear for his recovery, yet Bisshopp daily grows worse, even when his commanding General, Francis De Rottenburg, pays him a visit and tries to ease his conscience. All he can talk about as his condition worsens is the loss of his men, until one evening, still blaming himself for the tragedy, he expires without a struggle, nay, without a groan."* Colonel Bisshopp is buried in Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada, at the Lundy's Lane cemetery.

SECTION 13

Capt. John Bliss, Lot 29.
He was a Company commander in the 11th Infantry, General Winfield Scott's 1st Brigade; during the initial engagement at the Battle of Lundy's Lane, July 25, 1814, he was severely wounded and would not return to the field for the remainder of the War. .His campaigns, during the war, are listed on the side of his monument.

At the camp in Buffalo prior to the invasion of Canada, in June 1814, five soldiers were found guilty of desertion and sentenced to death. From the *Gardner Papers, NYSL Albany, New York* the five were *Mahlon Christie, George Orcote, Isaac Kent, John Black and William Fairfield.* All were charged with desertion and sentenced to death. On June 4, 1814 the executions would be carried out. Of the five men, one of them was 18 year old Pvt. William Fairfield of the 11th Infantry under the command of Capt. John Bliss. Fairfield's entry was listed as *: "A private of Capt. Bliss company 11th Infantry; Charge Desertion Spec. deserting from the services of the United States on the twenty first day of May at Buffaloe the state of New York to which charge the prisoner pleaded not guilty. The evidence being closed on the part of the prosecution and the prisoner stating that he had no defense to make, the court after mature deliberation found the prisoner William Fairfield guilty as charged and sentenced him to be shot two thirds of the members concurring." However, General Winfield Scott, who was the General in Charge of the camp at that time, had given the orders that young Fairfield, because of his age would not be executed but put through the horrible experience of preparing to die to include kneeling next his grave, being blindfolded; hearing the wails of his comrades and then the actual firing of the muskets at the other four soldiers. Those orders read "Headquarters, Niagara Frontier, Buffaloe, June 4, 1814 The General Court Martial which condemned to death William Fairfield in consideration of his youth recommended him to the clemency of the Commanding General. William Fairfield is accordingly pardoned. Let him reflect on the awful scene before him and return to the standard of his country W. Scott B Genl Commanding." The platoon assigned to his destruction had guns given to them which were not charged. After the muskets were discharged, young Fairfield actually fell over anticipating his death but then rose to his feet, and remarked "By God I thought I was dead."*

In *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society, Volume XXVI, 1922, Recalling Pioneer Days, pgs 253-254, By William Hodge Jr.,* he would recall these executions which he witnessed at the age of eight years old. He writes *"the condemned men as they knelt on their coffins were facing north. I was standing at their left, about thirty feet away and a little forward toward the front. Tow of the three first shot fell backward into their graves and soldiers standing up jumped down and lifted them up; and when the fourth was shot, the four bodies were put into the coffins and buried. The fifth man, who was to escape by reprieve, after experiencing the horrible dread of being shot, at the report of the muskets and fell upon his coffin. It was some time before he became conscious and could understand and believe that his life was spared by reprieve. His youth and the fact that he had been induced by older men to desert had operated to free him from the threatened penalty.This execution took place at about the place where Court Street no runs, and west of Niagara Street a short distance. I should locate it to the northward of the Wilkeson Homestead and a little further west."*

The *Tuesday, June 7, 1814 edition of the Buffalo Gazette reports that "John Black, Mahlon Christie, George Orcote and Issac H. Kent, soldiers of the United States Army were shot in Buffalo on Saturday last, pursuant to the sentence of a court martial, for the crime of desertion."*

According to the *Captain George Howard Letter book, Microfilm, Connecticut Historical Society,* as a Captain in the 25th Regiment present in Buffalo at this time, and a witness to this execution, in a letter to his wife Sarah dated Camp Buffaloe June 8, 1814 he includes the following *"On the 4th of the month the*

whole army was under arms to witness the execution of six men who had been guilty of desertion, mutiny, etc. They were marched out placed before their graves with coffins in front the signal given and five of them were shot dead. One a boy was reprieved having been strongly recommended to mercy by the court of which I was a member. His name is William Fairchild." This of course was to teach young Fairfield a lesson. However, young Fairfield had just joined Capt. Bliss's company. Capt Bliss is described in *"Soldiers of 1814 American Enlisted Men's Memoirs of the Niagara Campaign" pgs 31-32, by Donald Graves, 1995,* as *"This Officer was a cruel tyrannical man and the soldiers all hated him most cordially. As this youthful Son of Mars was permitted to return to his quarters accompanied by many of his fellows, he remarked he would desert again, if obliged to remain under the command of Capt. Bliss. He was soon suffered to resume his place in the company to which he originally belonged, where he was well satisfied, and exhibited no further disposition to insubordination."*
Maybe he should have left, because according to *"Known Military Dead During War of 1812 compiled by Lieut. Clarence Stewart Peterson, M.A. 1955, pg 22, "a Pvt. William Fairfield, of the 11th Infantry would be listed as died August 3, 1814"* circumstances unknown.

According to *Modern Antiquities; Comprising Sketches of Early Buffalo and the Great Lakes, by Barton Atkins, pg 22, 1898, "these executions were conducted in the vicinity of what is now the intersection of Seventh and Carolina Sts".*

In 1819 Capt. Bliss was appointed Commandant of Cadets and Instructor of Infantry Tactics at the United States Military Academy at West Point, NY. In this same year he would marry Letitia Matilda Ellicott daughter of Andrew Ellicott brother of Joseph and Benjamin. Capt Bliss also was responsible, with other citizens, in protecting the burial ground of soldiers in the Williamsville, now the Cheektowaga War of 1812 cemetery by securing the deed so it would never be encroached upon during their time.